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Saipan Tribune

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156 child abuse cases in FY 2013. PAGE 2
Former vice speaker Quitugua to run as senator. PAGE 3

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OPINION METER
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INSIDE

NATION

A 16-year-old boy stabs 22 persons at a Pittsburgh high school.
➤ PAGE 20

ASIA

A navy ship has picked up underwater signals consistent with a plane's black box.
➤ PAGE 21

LIFE & STYLE

Lorde and Imagine Dragons are top contenders at the Billboard Awards.
➤ PAGE 25

Cattle export to Guam nears

» Guam Legislature to hold hearing on bill that Marianas governors, lawmakers worked on

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Months after Marianas governors and lawmakers took a strong interest in improving interisland agricultural trade, the CNMI is now a step closer to exporting cattle to Guam with the recent introduction of a bill in the Guam Legislature removing the required testing for a cattle disease that is endemic to the whole Marianas but is no longer considered a major concern by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

See CATTLE on Page 1

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

A cow looks out from a private ranch in Marpi yesterday afternoon. The CNMI is a step closer to exporting cattle to Guam with the recent introduction of a bill removing Guam's required testing for anaplasmosis, a cattle disease that is endemic to the Marianas but the U.S. Department of Agriculture no longer considers it a major concern. The bill is up for a hearing on Monday and the CNMI is optimistic about its passage.

La Fiesta footprints matched Crisostomo's barefoot prints

» Govt expert testified at O.J. Simpson trials
» Cop says Crisostomo refused to undergo lie detector test

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Footprints lifted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation from an area of the abandoned La Fiesta Mall where the body of bartender Emerita Romero was found on Feb. 7, 2012, matched Joseph A. Crisostomo's barefoot impressions that were later taken by investigators, according to footprint expert who took the witness stand yesterday.

Bodziak

According to footprint, footwear, and tire impression expert William J. Bodziak, "there's no difference" between the footprint impressions lifted by the FBI at the crime scene and Crisostomo's barefoot impressions.

Bodziak, a retired FBI special agent, testified in the O.J. Simpson criminal and civil cases. His forensic analyses and testimonies also included the McVeigh and Nichols Oklahoma bombing trials and the VANPAC bombing trial.

See LA FIESTA on Page 4

22 years later, 244 Rota lands up for release

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

After a 22-year wait, Rota residents will start getting permits or land conveyance deeds for 244 agricultural homestead lots as early as May. Since 1992, federal concerns over endangered species in the area have held off the distribution of agricultural lots to eligible residents.

Department of Public Lands officials and a lawmaker separately confirmed yesterday that each eligible recipient will soon get 10,000 square meters or 1 hectare of land for the development and maintenance of farms crops, among other things.

Thomas Songsong, land claims investigator for DPL-Rota, DPL Planning Division director Patricia Rasa, and Rep. Teresita Santos (R-Rota) said CNMI agencies and the Pacific Islands office of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service finally got to sign a memorandum of agreement for the mitigation and protection of endangered species in the affected area.

Santos said regulations have also been recently adopted, paving the way for the release of the permits and assignment of lots as early as May.

"After several attempts in the past, people will soon get their agricultural homestead permits or land conveyance deed…They can soon start subsistence farming and at the same time help preserve natural resources and species in the area," Songsong said.

The Rota agricultural homestead lots are located in As Matmos and all the way to the Bird Sanctuary and down to Pali'e.

Some 50 of these agricultural lots were already previously assigned but because of the endangered species concerns in the area beginning in 1992, the project hit snags.

"Rota residents have waited long enough, and on behalf of the people of

See ROTA on Page 4

Local

156 child abuse cases in FY 2013

The Division of Youth Services recorded a total of 156 reports of child abuse and neglect in fiscal year 2013, according to DYS administrator Vivian Sablan, and 116 of these were substantiated.

Citing statistic from the previous fiscal year, Sablan said these reported cases sometimes contain multiple allegations, so breaking them down results in even higher numbers: 35 cases of physical abuse, 29 emotional abuse, 54 neglect, 52 sexual abuse, and 72 for others that include suicidal cases, domestic violence where children are involved, family violence, sexual violence, trafficking of minors, and teen pregnancy.

And the numbers do not seem to be letting up.

In the first quarter of fiscal year 2014 alone, from October to December of 2013, there were 46 new cases, according to Sablan. In the second quarter, from January to March this year, there were 50 new cases, she said.

On top of the first two quarters, there was a carryover of 63 active cases from the previous year.

Saipan Tribune learned that for fiscal year 2014, the case distribution reflects 45 cases of physical abuse, 39 emotional abuse, 63 neglect, 45 sexual abuse, and 54 others, which includes domestic violence, suicidal cases, teenage pregnancy, and other support cases.

These numbers reflect a total of 159 active cases thus far in fiscal year 2014, considering some reported cases involve multiple allegations.

Sablan said that it is for this very reason that DYS continues to build its capacity to raise awareness to prevent child abuse and neglect, respond to child abuse and neglect reports, manage and supervise cases, and provide supportive programs and services.

"We want to bring public awareness on child abuse and neglect issues and its prevalence in our community by highlighting key prevention strategies, programs, and services that are made available not only through DYS, but with other critical social service providers and community partners," Sablan said.

As part of the monthlong activities to highlight April as "Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Awareness Month," Sablan said that DYS is raising awareness among school-aged children by holding presentations in both public and private schools.

"We are providing outreach to educate our youth on what is child abuse, indicators of child abuse and neglect as well as what to do in the event community members suspect that child abuse and neglect has occurred," she said.

In addition, "mandated reporters" presentations are being offered to various schools and community agencies. Mandated reporters include any health care worker, school teacher or other school official, day care provider, counselor, social worker, peace officer or other law enforcement official who comes into contact with a child who has been abused.

"We believe that prevention is the key and that is to work toward eliminating the risk factors in families. DYS will continue to work on building on protective factors to lessen the risk of child abuse and neglect," Sablan said.

If you suspect any child abuse and neglect, call 664-2550/2565/2556 or 911 for emergency. To learn more about the DYS programs and services you may also visit the DYS website at www.dys.gov.mp.

The Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Awareness Month proclamation was signed last March 31. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

Former vice speaker Quitugua to run as senator

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Former House vice speaker Justo S. Quitugua will run once again for senator representing Saipan in the November election, this time as an independent candidate.

Quitugua is so far the third individual to declare his candidacy for a Saipan senatorial seat. The two others are Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold I. Palacios, and former Department of Public Lands secretary and former speaker Oscar M. Babauta, both under the Republican Party. Other names have been floating around, including that of Rep. Janet Maratita (Ind-Saipan).

"I'm always for the people. People have been calling me and asking me if I could come back and help, and I am doing that," Quitugua said in an interview yesterday.

Quitugua was a member of the 14th, 15th, and 16th House of Representatives, representing Precinct 4. He chaired the Committee on Education in the 14th House, and became vice speaker in the 15th House.

He ran as a senator in the 2009 elections under the Democratic Party but did not make it. Since then, he focused on his own consulting firm, which mainly handles federal grants.

He's a former deputy commissioner for administration at the Public School System from 1990 to 1994, and deputy commissioner for curriculum and instruction from 1983 to 1989.

Quitugua

"If elected as senator, again, I will donate my legislative salaries to the CNMI Scholarship Office for our college students as I did when I was in the House of Representatives," said Quitugua, a government retiree.

One of his major pieces of legislation that became law was a bill prohibiting smoking in all work places and public places in the CNMI. The bill, co-authored by now Speaker Joseph Deleon Guerrero (Ind-Saipan), became Public Law 16-46 or the "Smoke-free Air Act of 2008." He also authored a bill that became law allowing people to take a "sick leave" to care for their immediate family members who are sick.

Over 80 of Quitugua's bills and local bills during his three terms at the House became public laws or local laws. Many of them were bills appropriating funds not only for Precinct 4 projects and programs but also for CNMI-wide activities—from construction and repair of roads and pathways to relocating overflowing sewer system, funding for scholarship, school-related projects, and even the overhaul of Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power plants.

"We need to provide more assistance to our educational system, by way of giving more funding to them," he added.

Quitugua earned his master's degree in education at the University of Hawaii at Manoa in the '80s, among only a few CNMI residents at that time to complete a master's degree. He earned his bachelor's degree in education at the University of Guam, and attended Hopwood Junior High School.

Besides his stint at PSS, Quitugua was a language arts and mathematics consultant for the Guam Department of Education and a University of Guam continuing education adjunct instructor.

He said his team will not do a fundraising as "our people are already suffering from high cost of living." Quitugua's campaign manager is former representative Rosiky Camacho.

"We started planning for my candidacy long before the Democratic Party reorganized," he added. He said his team will release his platform at a later time.

Up to three Saipan senatorial seats are up for grabs in November.

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ROAD WAVING

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Independent gubernatorial candidates Former House speaker Heinz Hofschneider and Senate floor leader Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan), along with their families and supporters, wave at passing motorists along Beach Road in Garapan late yesterday afternoon, followed by a get-together. Hofschneider and Yumul are running for governor and lieutenant governor, respectively, and they face three other gubernatorial tickets in the November race.

LA FIESTA

From Page 1

Bodziak now operates Bodziak Forensics that provides consultation and examination of footwear impression, barefoot impression, and tire impression evidence.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho first heard Bodziak's testimony without the presence of the eight jurors to determine whether Bodziak should be accepted as an expert on barefoot impression.

After a long examination of Bodziak by interim chief prosecutor Brian Flaherty and defense counsel Janet H. King, Camacho ruled that Bodziak is an expert not only on barefoot impression but also on footwear and tire and thread impressions based on his 29 years of experience with the FBI, having written three published books on such expertise, and having been accepted as an expert in other jurisdictions.

The jurors were then called back to the courtroom to hear Bodziak's testimony.

About seven lawyers watched when Bodziak took the witness stand.

Testifying for the CNMI government in the ongoing jury trial of 40-year-old Crisostomo, Bodziak said his comparison of the footprint impressions lifted from the crime scene and Crisostomo's barefoot impressions were based on the feet's characteristics: size, heels, arches, toes, and balls.

Bodziak said he did not find any differences in the four footprint impressions (two for left foot and two for right foot) that he compared. He determined that the footprint impressions and photos have a high level of association to Crisostomo's left and right foot.

Bodziak, however, stated that he could not exclude the possibility that other persons in the general population have the same feet quality or distinguishing characteristics as Crisostomo's.

Bodziak said 67 photos were presented to him in this case and six long rolls of Crisostomo's barefoot prints plus photos and videos of the process that was conducted at the Department of Corrections.

Bodziak explained that in examining and comparing footprint impressions, the four areas of the feet that need to be evaluated are the arches, heels, toes, and balls.

Bodziak said it was former chief prosecutor Shelli Neal who contacted him and inquired about this type of footprint analyses.

Neal then arranged for the expert to perform the examination and come to testify on Saipan. He estimated that he will be paid a total of $9,000 for everything such as performing the examination and making the report, travel, hotel, and other expenses.

Bodziak said he received from the FBI Saipan Office a copy disc that contained 67 images that include photos of footprints taken from La Fiesta on Feb. 7, 2012.

Bodziak said he was given an additional six rolls of ink impression of Crisostomo's footprints that investigators took from the suspect at DOC on Dec. 24, 2013.

He said he was also provided four gelatin barefoot impressions taken from the crime scene.

The expert said there were already footprint impressions taken from Crisostomo on June 14, 2012, but that additional six rolls were forwarded at his request. He said he asked for more because it is important for his examination and comparison to have more left and right feet impressions.

Bodziak explained to the jurors the process of examination and comparison using a computer, a scanner, printer, and other tools. He also made a PowerPoint presentation to explain the process and how Crisostomo's footprints fit when superimposed with the gelatin lift of the footprints found at La Fiesta Mall.

On defense counsel Janet H. King's cross-examination, Bodziak agreed that Crisostomo's weight bearing footprints correspond with the available footprint impressions from the crime scene.

Bodziak explained that walking is considered weight bearing footprints, but not sitting.

He said Crisostomo's feet have no unique characteristics. He said the more unique characteristics such as scars or other deformities a foot has, the more it can reduce the population or the more people can be excluded as a source.

Bodziak agreed with King that his examination cannot personally identify Crisostomo. He also agreed with King that there is a possibility of another individual who has the same characteristics as Crisostomo's feet.

He described Crisostomo's feet as somewhat like a hockey stick, a characteristic that will further "reduce the population" but he considers it not unique.

In the continuation of his testimony, Police Officer 2 Kevin Maratita disclosed yesterday that Crisostomo refused to undergo a lie detector test during their investigation into the murder of Romero.

Maratita said that months after Romero was found at the abandoned La Fiesta Mall on Feb. 7, 2012, he met Crisostomo when the latter was supposed to undergo a polygraph test. Maratita said his role was to assist an FBI special agent in doing the polygraph test.

Maratita said they already set up the polygraph machine, but as soon as Crisostomo came into the room he appeared shocked and refused to take the test, saying he wanted to speak to a lawyer. Maratita said they did not conduct the test.

During cross-examination by King, Maratita agreed that he is aware that prior to the taking of Crisostomo's barefoot prints at the Department of Corrections on Dec. 24, 2013, investigators already took Crisostomo's footprints.

Maratita also participated in the taking of Crisostomo's barefoot prints at DOC on Dec. 24, 2013.

Maratita said the defendant appeared to have lost weight almost two years since he last saw him in 2012.

Police officer Marylou Tanaka, an evidence custodian at the Department of Public Safety, was the government's last witness to testify yesterday.

Answering questions from assistant attorney general Margo Brown-Badawy, Tanaka said she was one of the many police officers who responded to Building 2 of La Fiesta Mall on April 27, 2012, when Romero's purse was found.

The purse contained a black wallet that also had pictures and quarters and other items, and a make-up bag. Other items found in the purse and the make-up bag were a bracelet, birth control pills, a check from Godfather's Bar, a cellphone battery, keys, and other things.

The trial will continue today, Friday, at 8:30am.

Ayuyu wants to travel to Calif. 1st before serving his sentence

Former senator Juan M. Ayuyu has asked the federal court to allow him to travel at his own expense to San Diego, California, where his daughter lives, prior to serving his 41-month prison term.

Ayuyu, through his lawyer, Bruce Berline, also asked the court to allow him to self-surrender to the prison facility once it has been designated.

Berline said the U.S. government does not have any objection as long as Ayuyu flies through Honolulu and does not fly into any foreign countries.

Berline said the U.S. Probation has no objection and indicated that if the request is granted, it will arrange the appropriate details with the San Diego Probation Office.

The former senator was sentenced in March to 41 months in prison for his conviction in a conspiracy to violate the Endangered Species Act and conspiracy to obstruct an official proceeding. The 49-year-old Ayuyu was given credit for 228 days of time served.

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona allowed Ayuyu to remain at liberty while awaiting the designation of a federal prison facility where he will serve his sentence.

In Ayuyu's request to travel, filed in court on Tuesday, Berline said his client would like to visit his daughter in San Diego prior to his incarceration. Berline said the cost of any travel to San Diego via Honolulu would be shouldered by Ayuyu's family members.

Upon reaching San Diego, Ayuyu would surrender himself to the prison once a facility is designated by the U.S. Bureau of Prisons, Berline said.

"By Mr. Ayuyu being allowed to travel to the designated facility on his own, he would be saving the United States substantial time and money related to custodial transportation costs," Berline said.

Ayuyu pleaded guilty on July 22, 2013, to two charges relating to the smuggling of endangered fruit bats from Rota to Saipan. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

ROTA

From Page 1

Rota, I thank all the federal and local agencies involved to finally allow for lots distribution and permitting, including Gov. Eloy S. Inos. The release of the permits, the lottery drawing, and the assignment of lots will happen soon. Residents can then start planting sweet potatoes, coconut trees, bananas, mangoes, lemons and other fruit crops. They can also start raising pigs, poultry and cattle," Santos said.

Once residents start getting into subsistence farming, Santos said they wouldn't need to rely so much on goods that are brought to Rota. Because of additional shipping costs, the prices of goods on Rota are more expensive than those on Saipan.

Santos also thanked DPL Secretary Pete A. Tenorio and staff, DPL-Rota led by resident director Alejo Mendiola and Thomas Songsong, Department of Lands and Natural Resources Secretary Arnold Palacios and staff, the Division of Environmental Quality, Historic Preservation Office, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

CATTLE

From Page 1

"It's about time Guam allows livestock from the CNMI. Ultimately, everybody will benefit," longtime rancher Ernest "Ernie" Torres told *Saipan Tribune*.

Torres will be among the individuals traveling to Guam to testify on Bill 297-32 on Monday morning at the Guam Legislature.

Guam Speaker Judith T. Won Pat and Sen. Vicente C. Pangelinan's Bill 297-32 amends Guam's animal quarantine regulations to, among other things, remove anasplasmosis testing as condition for allowing cattle entry into Guam.

Anaplasmosis is a cattle disease that is endemic to Guam and the CNMI but USDA no longer considers it of major importance.

For several years, the CNMI Department of Lands and Natural Resources has been requesting Guam's Department of Agriculture to propose amendments to phase out entry requirements and conditions that are no longer considered essential, are overly restrictive, or are not performing their intended purpose.

When CNMI Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Guam Gov. Eddie Calvo made it one of the key issues of common concerns during their historic summit last year, along with efforts of the newly-formed Mariana Islands Legislature Association comprising CNMI and Guam lawmakers, the proposed export of cattle from the CNMI to Guam picked up speed.

"This will open up a whole lot of opportunities for the CNMI, as well as Guam. Cattle ranching could be a much bigger industry for the CNMI once we're allowed to export cattle to Guam. We have a very robust ranching especially on Tinian and Saipan," DLNR Secretary Arnold Palacios told *Saipan Tribune* yesterday.

On behalf of the CNMI government, Palacios will testify on Monday in Guam in support of the bill.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

$27M Medicare, Medicaid funds projected for CHCC

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. projects nearly $27 million in reimbursements from both Medicare and Medicaid programs this fiscal year and the next, based on budget documents the corporation turned in to the Office of Management and Budget.

The corporation specifically identified $15.906 million and $10.688 million in projected revenue from Medicare and Medicaid reimbursements in fiscal years 2014 and 2015, respectively.

Compared to the actual reimbursements realized in previous fiscal years, current projections for fiscal years 2014 and 2015 for both programs reflect a huge jump.

Records show that the corporation got a total of $2.953 million from Medicare in fiscal year 2012, and $9.067 million from Medicaid during the same period.

In fiscal year 2013, Medicare reimbursements amounted to $$8.391 million, while Medicaid funds totaled $10.116 million.

Medicare is a federal program that provides health coverage if you are 65 or older or have a severe disability, no matter your income. Medicaid is a state and federal program that provides health coverage if you have a very low income.

CHCC receives reimbursement from these two programs for providing treatment and healthcare services for both programs' clients in the CNMI.

CHCC is asking for a $41.5 million operational budget for fiscal year 2015, which starts on Oct. 1 this year. This submission is based on collections and revenue it expects to raise in the next 12 months.

OMB documents show that CHCC expects to earn a total of $36.803 million for the hospital side: Medicare ($15.906 million); Medicaid ($10.688 million); private insurance ($6.356 million); Guam Marianas Collection Agency ($309,331); rental lease ($79,500); grantor's upfront payment ($2.356 million); indirect cost ($756,470); cafeteria lease ($60,000); and health electronic record incentive ($280,610).

In the Public Health Division, the projected revenue for fiscal year 2015 is at $403,833. It also expects the Rota and Tinian health centers to generate $367,680 and $516,674 respectively.

Next fiscal year's proposed seed money of $3.469 million was also factored in the overall budget submission of $41.5 million.

CHCC's revenue projection in fiscal year 2015 ($41.5 million) is slightly higher than what it projected for fiscal year 2014 ($40.933 million). The difference is due to an anticipated lower incentive for the hospital's electronic health record system, which received $1.12 million in fiscal year 2014 and only $280,610 expected in fiscal year 2015.

CHCC has indicated it will continue to incur unforeseen expenditures as it continues to address Medicare compliance.

The U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is expected to decide on CHC's Condition of Participation in June this year.

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Team Blue Ocean wins Go-Kart Championships, takes $2K

Team Blue Ocean topped the 2014 Budweiser Go-Kart Championship held last Sunday at the Mariana Seaside Circuit of Mariana Resort & Spa.

Hiroshi Kitayama and his Blue Ocean teammates took home $2,000 in prize money, while the Young and the Restless team led by Misaki Kitayama came second and won $1,000. The Carlos Rivera-led Century Hotel came in at third and pocketed $500.

A total of 19 teams joined the go-kart race and about 250 people attended.

Jaydeen Sablan won the raffle drawing that took place at the event and walked away with the grand prize of a round-trip ticket for two to Japan, courtesy of Delta Air Lines.

The race was organized by the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands as one of its signature fundraising events.

Committee member Carlos Rivera said the turnout was a great success.

"It was another great, successful event overall. Hopefully next year we'd have a larger number of participants from the racing teams, volunteers, as well as food vendors," Rivera said.

According to go-kart committee chair William Retardo, all of the event's proceeds will go to HANMI, which is about $4,600.

"It was a very good race from the beginning to final, there wasn't any major accident and there were only a few minor problems," Retardo said.

HANMI president Nick Nishikawa was elated with the amount raised and the large number of participants.

"This is the second time with the go-kart event and I am quite surprised that many people joined and participated and everyone was excited. This year's event was wonderful," he said.

Nishikawa said that the money raised will definitely return to the community. "This money will be for the community and we will try to create many events to support the community in many ways."

Nishikawa noted that HANMI would be hosting its annual golf tournament, the 13th Annual HANMI Charity Classic, at the Mariana Resort golf course on June 7, 2014. He encouraged everyone to once again support this HANMI event as "it's for the community." ***(Jayson Camacho)***

SSHS' Kanani Lee accepted to National Society of Scholars

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A 17-year-old local lass is the latest addition to the growing membership of the prestigious National Society of High School Scholars, which recently recognized the student's superior academic achievements.

Kanani Lee, a 12th grader at Saipan Southern High School, is the daughter of Lawrence and Winnie Lee. Currently, she is a member of her school's National Honor Society and the SSHS Manta Ray Concert Band, which performed in numerous international stages including an historic appearance at the 2012 Olympics in London.

Lee

Lee's acceptance into the National Society of High School Scholars was recently announced by the organization's top executives: president James Lewis and founder and chairman Claes Nobel, a senior member of the family that established the Nobel Prizes.

The NSHSS recognizes top scholars who have demonstrated outstanding leadership, scholarship, and community commitments.

In an interview with Kanani, the student shared that she will soon be attending the University of Massachusetts Amherst and studying in the Commonwealth Honors College.

Kanani also aims to become a travel writer someday.

She said this latest honor she obtained means a lot to her and her family.

"I was thrilled upon receiving the news of an opportunity to participate in a nationwide honor society. I felt that, although I was so far from the other scholars in the organization, I could fully represent myself as a resident of the CNMI. The honor means a lot to me, as I have certainly worked hard throughout my high school career. The achievement felt like a reward for my academic efforts," she said.

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CUC opposes bill to lower security deposits, refunds to customers

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Customers of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. may be required to pledge only a month's worth of security deposit for their accounts—instead of the current two—which will also be refunded in a year's time if a bill that proposes such an arrangement is passed and enacted into law.

Senate Bill 18-39, authored by Sen. Jovita M. Taimanao, seeks to require CUC to refund the security deposit of commercial and residential customers after a one-year period if they pay their bills in full and on time. The same bill also seeks to reduce to one month the security deposit of CUC's commercial clients.

CUC executive director Alan Fletcher strongly opposes this bill, saying it presents a situation where the Legislature will usurp the role of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Commission—the regulating body that reviews, approves, and denies rates and policies that affect CUC.

"This is an important consideration because when the CPUC considers changes that will affect CUC's rates, it looks at a very complicated and comprehensive picture of the utility's financial numbers and health. When a change is made that takes money away from CUC in one area, a change must be made in another area to balance the funding requirements to continue to properly run the utility," Fletcher said.

He pointed out that if CUC is not properly funded, the mandate of the federal stipulated orders is violated. These orders require rates that are enough to fund CUC.

Fletcher disclosed that when CPUC considers rates, charges, and fees, it is required to use a method that balances the public need for adequate, efficient and reasonable service, and the need of the utility firm to receive enough income to cover all costs for offering the service.

"Therefore, the proper vehicle for the change in policy that [S.B. 18-39] envisions is better left with the CPUC. The CPUC has the technical expertise and ability to review changes… to avoid a result [that], even if unintended, may violate federal and CNMI laws," he said.

He encouraged the Legislature to petition instead the CPUC with this request so that the true effect of the bill can be analyzed before it is implemented.

CUC is also concerned about the bill from a financial and accounting standpoint.

Fletcher said the bill does not appear to consider one of the primary purposes of security deposits, which is to provide security on an account after a customer's service is terminated and their last billing is generated.

"Given the normal collection cycle, it is not unusual for accounts to owe CUC for two months of service. Reducing the security deposit to only one month substantially increases the risk of collection for CUC. In addition, many commercial accounts are held by small corporations with few assets. Once those corporations cease doing business, it is nearly impossible to collect outstanding amounts owed to CUC," said Fletcher.

Fletcher said the bill would also have a negative cash flow impact in the first few months once it is implemented. Currently, CUC's bad debt levels are at about 6 percent for residential accounts and 3 percent for commercial accounts. The average utility bad debt levels for mainland public utilities the size of CUC average less than 0.2 percent.

If the bill becomes law, this will take away a source that CUC depends on to collect, and this will in turn increase CUC's bad debt levels, which could potentially lead to higher base rates for all customers, according to Fletcher.

Student films to take center stage at MCS film fest

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The creative work of young filmmakers will take center stage Saturday night as Mount Carmel School organizes this year's film festival.

The institution will showcase four student films in a drive-in style theater on the school's south lawn on April 12, Saturday, in celebration of the 2014 MCS Film Festival.

To be featured in the event are the *Dead Living, Saipan Pride Rice, Zero to Hero,* and *Dollarful of Fists*.

Inspired by James Thurber's short story, *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, the action-comedy *Dead Living* follows Dante Mitty as he struggles to cope with the reality of his mundane life by retreating into fantastic daydreams.

Directed by senior Dominic Travilla, the comedy *Saipan Pride Rice* shows what happens when a Chamorro boy and a Filipino girl tell their families that they are getting married.

Billed as an "epic teenage romantic comedy" and inspired by 1980s films by John Hughes, *Zero to Hero* tells of a geeky disc jockey named Zero who decides to run for prom king in order to land a dance with the girl of his dreams.

Finally, directed by 7th grader Peyton Gomez and playing with the title of Sergio Leone's classic 1964 film *A Fistful of Dollars* starring Clint Eastwood, *Dollarful of Fists* is a simple story about two junior high students who get into an epic battle over a one-dollar bill.

On Saturday, audience members will be able to drive into the south lawn, or park in the Mount Carmel Cathedral field, to watch films that will be screened on the south wall of the middle school building. The festival is free to the general public. Viewers will be able to tune into the audio tracks of the films on 1140 AM, 92.1 FM, or www.cnmiradio.com, courtesy of the film festival's major sponsor, KKMP Radio. Audience members that bring beach towels or blankets will also be able to sit in an area reserved for picnic-style seating in front of the screen.

Mount Carmel School's Theatre Club is sponsoring the event and will be selling concessions to help raise funds for the school's Save the Stage campaign to renovate the school's historic stage where the CNMI's Covenant and Constitution were signed.

For more information, call 234-6184 or visit the school's new website at www.mountcarmelsaipan.com.

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Walsh: Church responding to a culture of 'anti-faith'

By THOMAS MANGLONA II
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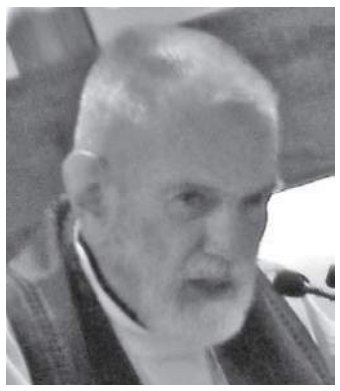
CORRESPONDENT

The Catholic Church today is responding to a culture of anti-faith, according to visiting Guam priest Rev. Fr. Francis Michael Walsh, who said today's modern world has resulted in both bad and good consequences.

"The bad consequences include the fact that the task of the church to preach the Gospel has gotten harder," Walsh told dozens of youth parishioners on Monday at Mt. Carmel Cathedral as a part of the annual Come Back to Life activities of the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa.

The world is up against a popular culture that is shaping



Walsh

in very subtle, but powerful ways, how people both think and act, he said.

"The values that shape their lives more and more come from the materialism that surrounds us in the culture and the most insidious thing is that they do not realize what is happening," he said.

Walsh said that too many families do not realize the responsibility of passing faith to their children. "They think that if they send their children to CCD that they are doing all that is necessary."

Walsh's one-hour-and-a-half speech also covered "the emergency room principle" which he explained is the concept that God works on the "worst cases" first. He said that if people want to be at the head of the "mercy line, they have to think well of everybody else."

"Otherwise, what you are saying is that others are worse than you. In which case, you lose your place in the mercy line."

One Kristo Rai parishioner, Eloise Lopez, took Walsh's message to heart. "I agree with everything he said. His message was moving and I just hope that a lot of the other young people take what he said to heart."

San Roque perishioner Kristine Avandaniel said that Walsh was "inspiring and I think more people need to think about what he said." She added, "God always has other plans for us."

John Benedicto, from Mt. Carmel Cathedral Parish, expressed the same sentiment. "I think it's important to have more events like this. I think that the culture is changing in our community when it comes to religion and I plan to do something about this more as a follower of Christ because of tonight."

Walsh's address also invited the students to think about sexuality in the service of life, the structure of pleasure, faith, safe sex with consequences, and the culture of heterosexuality.

"Sexuality allows love to exist in the service of life. For better or for worse, for richer or for poorer, in sickness and in health, until death do us part."

He also told students that having sex with someone to whom they are not committed in marriage and who is not committed to them means that the experience is separated from the experience of commitment.

He said that when people do this, the end result is selfish pleasure seeking, instead of fostering the unity of marriage.

He encouraged the youth to seek the Gospel as it brings good news that changes the horizons of their life. "Where there was no hope, light was shown."

Fr. Ryan Jimenez, apostolic administrator for the Diocese of Chalan Kanoa, said the community is blessed to have Walsh on island. Walsh also spoke at last week's Sunday Mass and participated in confession services later on Thursday night.

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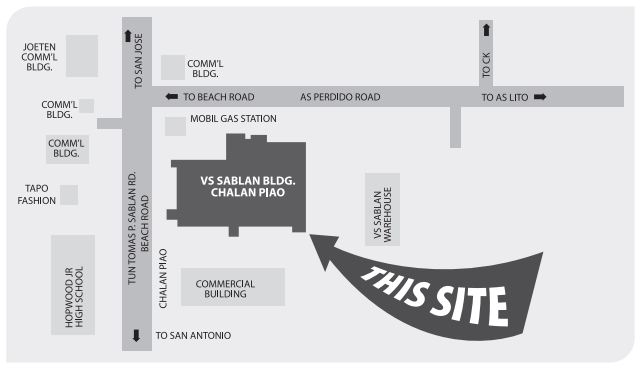

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Flashback
A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

April 11, 2006

Fund's debt with health providers may shoot up

The NMI Retirement Fund's debt with health providers may increase three-fold if it is not settled before June 30, when the Fund's contract with third party administrator Hawaii Pacific Medical Referral expires. Fund administrator Karl T. Reyes said yesterday that, excluding the $7 million debt with the Commonwealth Health Center, the Group Health Insurance program owes HPMR $2.7 million for billings charged by health providers—hospitals and health centers—in Guam, Hawaii, and the U.S mainland. The $2.7 million is the discounted amount obtained through HPMR. If this is not paid before the HPMR contract's expiration on June 30, authorities fear that the Fund may be charged the original amount.

MLK Day in the NMI—at last!

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial will sign today a House bill that would establish a Martin Luther King Day in the Commonwealth. House Bill 15-37, once enacted, will become Public Law 15-4. It was passed by the House of Representatives on March 6, 2006 and by the Senate three days later. The measure will make Martin Luther King Day—commemorated on the third Monday of January—a legal holiday in the Northern Marianas. But the number of legal holidays will remain at 14, as the bill will combine Commonwealth Day and Covenant Day into one holiday. The day will be called Commonwealth Covenant Day and observed on the current Covenant Day, March 24.

April 11, 2007

Hundreds camp out to file taxes

Although disappointed by the failure of the government to release their rebates on time, hundreds of CNMI taxpayers are still taking considerable time to line up and file their income tax returns before the April 17 deadline. "People are camping out here. They come here as early as 5am to 6am to be the first in line. When I arrived at 8am, everybody else was here. There's plenty of people," said Isabelle Piyalmai, who was holding a No. 47 printed on a yellow paper. She was one of the many who patiently waited for their turn to enter the tax assistance center at the Revenue & Taxation Division Office at the ground floor of Joeten Dandan building.

'Action is right response to human trafficking'

The number of human trafficking victims in the CNMI is closer to 40 than the 30 reportedly housed at a local shelter, Federal Ombudsman James Benedetto says. According to Benedetto, his office has served as first point of contact for most of the victims of human trafficking in the Commonwealth. His office interviewed the victims and referred them to federal and CNMI law enforcement agencies for action. "And I can report to you right now that there were not 30 trafficking victims in the CNMI," he told the Saipan Rotary Club at the Hyatt Regency Saipan yesterday.

April 11, 2008

Census shows poorer NMI

The average income each person makes in the Northern Marianas dropped by a third between 2000 and 2004, according to a census report released yesterday. The census, conducted in the last quarter of 2005, found that the CNMI per capita income plunged to $6,178 in 2004, from $9,151 in 2000. The Commonwealth's household income and family income mirrored the decline in per capita income. Each household made an average income of $25,172 in 2004, down from $37,015 in 2000. The average family income plunged to $28,461 in 2004, from $37,986 in 2000.

Pending applications for homesteads reach 3,878

There are 3,878 homestead applications that are still on the waiting list at the Department of Public Lands, some of them dating back to the early '80s. DPL homestead director Manny Rabauliman said the issuance of homestead lots to those pending applications had been stalled due to the lack of available public lands. "If you look at the number of pending applications, it's obvious that we cannot house that many people," Rabauliman said. Each homestead applicant who is granted a homestead lot is given 1,000 square meters worth of land. The homestead program is on a first-come, first-served basis. The last homesteader issued a lot was in 2007 and it was given to an applicant who had applied for it in the early '80s.

50 attend 1st commemoration of 'Day of Valor' in the CNMI

Attendees gather for a group photo at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe after the first ever commemoration of the Day of Valor in the CNMI. JAYSON CAMACHO

About 50 people attended the first ever commemoration of the "Day of Valor" in the CNMI last Wednesday, April 9, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Susupe.

The 72nd anniversary of the Bataan Death March is remembered in the Philippines on April 9 as the "Araw ng Kagitingan" (Day of Valor), which marks the fall of Bataan during World War II, when more than 76,000 Filipino and American soldiers surrendered to Japanese troops. These prisoners of war were forced to walk the 90-mile distance from Bataan to Capas, Tarlac—the infamous Death March—during which thousands died or were killed.

This national holiday in the Philippines highlights the greatness and heroism of Filipino and American soldiers during World War II.

The theme for this year's celebration was "Reflection on the sacrifices of our veterans, a guide to a path for changes."

U.S Pinoys for Good Governance Marianas chapter chair Dr. Celia Lamkin said she thought about commemorating this occasion here in the CNMI because she had noticed that it has never been observed on Saipan despite its large Filipino community.

"This is a very important part of the history shared by the Philippines and the U.S. In addition, the Filipino youth who were born and raised in the CNMI and other Filipinos will become aware and educated on the importance of April 9," Lamkin said.

One of the guest speakers, Maria Theresa DLR Dizon, who is floor leader of the 14th CNMI Youth Congress, urged the people who attended to be proud of where they came from and that the men who fought will never be forgotten.

"If we should be anything, we should be grateful for their service. …they were persistent even though if they fall or trip, they were persistent, even though they were tortured during the walk, they were persistent….why? Because they loved their people, they loved their country, and I want to ask you not to forget where you come from," Dizon said.

Another guest speaker was Rolando Olais, a veteran's son, whose father was one of those who survived the Death March. His father's name is Tito Olais, who passed away when he was 82 years old.

Other guests were Sen. Ray Yumul (Ind-Saipan) and Danny Bigalbal of the El Shaddai Charismatic Group.

Lamkin said that she will push for the occasion's commemoration the next year. "This holiday should be recognized and celebrated," she said. ***(Jayson Camacho)***

Increase Guam's minimum wage to $10, says senator

GUAM (Pacific News Center)—In remarks before the Guam Women's Chamber of Commerce yesterday, Sen. B.J. Cruz announced that he will be introducing a bill to increase the minimum wage from the current $7.25 an hour to $10.10 an hour three years from now.

Cruz said the wage hike would be staggered. He is proposing a $0.95-cent increase in each of the next three years.

"We've already increased the Government of Guam. If you see the disparities between GovGuam and the private sector, it's embarrassing," said Cruz.

He said he has been considering the idea for some time, and given the support of local economists, he thinks now is the time to do it.

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

To curb school lunch waste, ease the fruit and vegetable rules

The following editorial appeared in the Los Angeles Times *on Tuesday, April 8:*

No one should have expected that putting more vegetables in front of elementary school students would instantly turn them into an army of broccoli fans. Plenty of food has been thrown out since new federal rules took effect in 2011 requiring students in the subsidized school lunch program to choose a fruit or vegetable each day. Nevertheless, studies find that continued exposure to produce is resulting in more children eating at least some of it.

That's worth a certain amount of wasted food. The new lunch rules, pushed by the Obama administration and passed by Congress, provide better nutrition and introduce more students to healthful eating habits that they will, it's hoped, carry into adulthood.

Still, the program is afflicted by rigid, overreaching regulations that defy common sense. Schools must provide items from five food groups, including a fruit and a vegetable, every day. Students must choose three items, even if they're not hungry enough for all of them, and at least one must be produce. But fruits and vegetables rank as the least popular items, so requiring schools to offer one of each for each student practically guarantees that an enormous amount of fruits and vegetables will go to waste.

Even worse are the rules about what kinds of produce must be offered and in what form. They make it nearly impossible, for example, to hide the vegetables in soups or lasagna, where they might be more palatable to students. It took a long, intense lobbying effort for schools to get permission to serve smoothies; even though cafeterias are encouraged to serve yogurt and fruit, they weren't allowed until just recently to combine them into a healthful drink.

The federal rules even prohibit students from taking food out of the cafeteria to eat later.

No wonder so much ends up in garbage cans. In the Los Angeles Unified School District, as the *Los Angeles Times* recently reported, it adds up to $100,000 in wasted food each day.

Congress is supposed to reauthorize the school lunch bill in 2015, and there are many changes it should make. Though the law should continue to require all students to take a fruit or vegetable, it should allow them to take only as much food as they want. Children should be able to pick two fruits or two vegetables in a day, which they can't do now, and eat their leftovers later. Schools should be free to mix vegetables together in appealing and healthful dishes. Lawmakers need to think more like budget-conscious parents and less like detail-obsessed regulators.

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Self-driving cars could keep seniors in the driver's seat

By BRETT BERK
Los Angeles Times

Brett Berk's automotive writing appears regularly in Vanity Fair, Details, GQ, Road & Track, Popular Mechanics *and* Yahoo! Autos. *He wrote this for the* Los Angeles Times.

My Grandma Bobbie is 93 and lives on her own, in a spotless condo decorated with enviable midcentury furnishings. The daughter of a General Motors millwright, she grew up in Detroit riding the streetcar, but one of her goals was to get to the promised land—the suburbs—and preferably by car.

For my grandmother, like many older people in her cohort, a car is not only a convenience or a luxury—though it is that; Grandma loved Lincolns and Cadillacs and now drives a Lexus—it is a lifeline, the only way to make regular trips to the store, to visit with family or to attend medical appointments.

Her best friend, Evelyn, who is 97 and still in excellent health, gave up her car last year after a few traffic incidents and immediately had to move into an apartment in an assisted-living facility. Evelyn is cheery and social and has enjoyed the change—she loves not having to cook for herself.

But my grandmother is far more reserved and fiercely independent. When I asked her about the assisted-living site, she told me, "Evelyn says I'd hate it." I'm certain Evelyn is right.

But there will soon be another option. Science-fiction fears of a robot takeover aside, the self-driving car is now within reach. And while a fully autonomous vehicle may not be ideal for all—for example, auto journalists/enthusiasts like me, for whom exploring a car's capabilities is both enjoyable and a professional mandate—access to one may allow seniors like my grandma to maintain their sense of self, their pride and their elaborate hairdos. (Not a joke: Forgoing personal hygiene, even in the form of weekly trips to what Bobbie calls her "beauty operator," can be a symptom of or catalyst to mental and physical decline.)

The self-driving car may also allow us to reduce the risk that older drivers pose to themselves and others, Mr. Magoo-ing about our roadways. As physical and mental degeneration occurs and reaction times slow, aging drivers can lose faith in their abilities or find their capacities fail them. As you may have surmised from exasperating personal experience, metered freeway onramps, the porte-cochere at the Beverly Hills Hotel, intersections and yield lanes pose a particular challenge.

And then there's the risk factor. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety, the collision rate for older drivers is among the highest of any age group. Seniors are surpassed only by teenagers and entitled millennials when it comes to per capita insurance damage claims. And older drivers have one of the highest rates of traffic fatalities per mile driven, in part because they lack resilience to recover from injuries sustained.

Lest you think this is a niche problem concentrated among cravat-wearing Buick pilots in Palm Springs, think again. Between now and 2020, the California population of seniors is projected to grow at a rate twice as fast as the state's total population.

Among the oldest subset of this demographic, that increase is expected to jump more than 300% in several counties, nearly all of them far from the density and public transport offered in urban areas. And that's before the lurking glut of baby boomers starts to turn 85 around 2030. By then, up to a quarter of the nation's licensed drivers will be older than 85.

A fully autonomous vehicle, with a constant 360-degree range of view and instantaneous response times, will act faster and more accurately than the average human—and certainly faster and more accurately than my grandma's few remaining friends—keeping everyone on the road safer.

Insurance Institute for Highway Safety studies have indicated that emergent crash-avoidance features, such as autonomous braking, significantly reduce collisions and claims. Studies have also shown that fragile senior drivers not only benefited from existing safety technologies, such as side air bags and automatically adjusting seat belts, they are open and adaptable to new technology like backup cameras.

The arrival of the fully autonomous car is imminent. After Gov. Jerry Brown signed SB 1298 into law in 2012 to allow such vehicles to operate on California roads, the Department of Motor Vehicles set to work crafting rules for their manufacture and operation. Draft regulations will be complete by early July. Written public comment will follow, with public hearings in August before finalized rules are submitted by Jan. 1.

Major mass-market manufacturers such as Nissan and General Motors are watching California, and its nearly 25 million licensed drivers, and have indicated that they're aiming to bring fully autonomous vehicles to market before the decade's end.

One of the key tenets in the California State Plan on Aging for 2013-17 is to "advance the availability of transportation services that are responsive to the needs of older adults." Once autonomous cars meet safety standards, they can help serve these ends.

If Grandma Bobbie ever starts to decline—and she's still gorgeous and in perfect health, so that's a big if—I'll be pulling for her to buy one. Though the last time I tried to get her to buy a new car, she said, "I'm in my 90s now. Maybe I'll lease?"

Tourism and paradise

By ED STEPHENS
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Visit Ed at EdStephensJr.com. His column runs every Friday.

While I was waxing enthusiastic about a boutique hotel I stayed at recently, by coincidence a relative was jetting to a lush nook in the tropics to inspect some land on which to build a B&B (bed and breakfast).

His concept is to put up a B&B for foreign tourists.

I know that many readers have similar notions. After all, running a business in paradise sounds better than commuting to a job you don't like in a city you don't much care for.

Paradise sounds better because it is better.

So let's think nice thoughts today, and look at the optimistic side of tourism in the tropical Pacific.

One good thing about the tourism industry is that it's as predictable as anything can be in the economic world. It's a big glacier that, even in this fast-moving jet age, usually carves its paths slowly.

Of course, in cases of financial collapse, UFO invasions, or other upheavals, tourism will take a hit along with everything else. It doesn't live in some magical bubble. But that's the whole idea here, tourism is rooted in economic bedrock, so it doesn't just wave around on a whim.

Indeed, most of the movements I've seen in Pacific tourism were easy to see coming. Sure, Saipan always had myopia in this regard, but that's a function of Saipan's character, not of the industry's nature.

Since tourism is more predictable than it is fickle, you don't have to be fast on the draw to succeed. You don't have to be the first one to jump on a new trend or to join a new fashion. To the contrary, it's usually the patient and calculating players who survive in this industry.

In fact, in most cases, I wouldn't want to be the first guy to put up a hotel somewhere. I'd want to be, say, the third guy putting up the third hotel somewhere. Though I'm sure there are cases where a lone operator reaps juicy windfalls by being a sole pioneer, I can't think of any right now.

I can, however, think of some cases, right here in Micronesia, where pioneers have come to grief. I'm talking serious grief, by the way, which we won't dwell on because I'm being Mr. Optimistic today.

Anyway, this leads us to the fact that you don't have to be a daredevil to make a go of things. If you've got the necessary capital to buy into the game to begin with, then merely being a clear-headed and competent business operator who gets along well with people is enough.

And on that last note, you have to get along with a lot of people to succeed in the industry, at least if you're an entrepreneur. That you have to get along with customers is too obvious to mention, so I won't, but you should also get along with tour operators ("ground operators"), cab drivers, tour agencies, employees (whose attitudes will be obvious to your clients), local officials, vendors (who can help you, or hinder you, in a pinch), and even competitors.

Me, I like that stuff. Cooperating with people is what business is all about. So if you're on that wavelength, then tourism might be for you.

Another good thing about the tourism industry is that if you can carve out a foothold in one business there's often room for horizontal integration. This is possibly the most under-appreciated element of the industry. It's the hidden prize. An obvious example is that a successful hotel, even a small one, can spawn a successful restaurant, or a souvenir shop, or whatever. I've got pals who have spread into various tourism niches like ivy on a brick wall.

Outside of strict integration, there's often room for horizontal teamwork, where businesses link together and cast a broader net for tourism dollars. The best examples I've seen were right here on Saipan, and, heck, that's how I got my introduction to Saipan over 22 years ago.

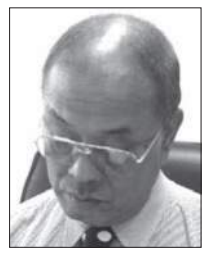
Want another optimistic factor? OK, here's one: Capital is not only cheap right now, it is silly-cheap right now. If you're looking to steer money into a tourism idea, then if you can get it (which, admittedly, is difficult), then the costs (interest rates) are low.

Saving the best thing for last, I will note this: Tourism isn't just a business, it's a lifestyle.

Pay to Play Culture 101

By JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.
Special to the Saipan Tribune

John DelRosario Jr. is a former publisher of the Saipan Tribune *and a former secretary of the Department of Public Lands.*



There's the grand expectation that casino is the panacea—the single answer solves all fiscal ills—in the ballooning bankruptcy of the local government.

How exciting, though, the net result of a thoughtful probe to figure out the beast: "Pay To Play Culture 101!" And the boys are singing, *O' When the Saints*! Even I'm tappin' and snappin' my fingers to such a sprightly beat.

Admirable, though, the fuzzy math that casino would serve as the Holy Grail and savior of our financial woes at home. Let's do a simple review of what's projected versus the combined debts of the CNMI. It's an important issue to know and understand so you know that the promised revenue isn't what the Pay To Play Culture 101 gang blared with their horns recently.

It is projected that there would be an advance payment (from license fee) of some $30 million. Reportedly, Gov. Eulogio S. Inos would use this sum to pay off the 25-percent cut in pension pay. Gee! Feels good that some goodies would finally be rolling down the hill from atop Mt. "Pay To Play Culture 101!" Is this amount sufficient for this purpose or is it short by some $20 million? With a shortfall, how would the 25 percent be paid? Would it be a one-shot deal or divided into two payments until further notice?

Reality of debts and deficit

Peeking into the debts of the CNMI: $236 million in deficit while honing deficit spending, $13 million for DB withdrawal interest, $700 million in unfunded liability of the Fund; $100 million for land compensation; $27 million in judgments against the CNMI; $64 million in CUC debts; $21 million in government utilities; and $200 million plus for the pending pension obligation fund loan.

Total debt is more than $1.270 billion, minus the $30 million for a shortfall of $1.240 billion!

The shortfall highlights the obvious unsustainability of the program beyond 2018 when all Fund investment money is spent. Thus, the obvious myopic shortsightedness in the new law "Pay To Play 101" Saipan casino law that zipped by without public participation.

The Fund would be dead by then (2018) while we force current employees to work beyond the age of 65 or take the marriage vow of 'til death do us part. A serious dilemma where some $70 million in pension pay would be subtracted from the local economy.

The CNMI's government debt iceberg is moving albeit invisibly but remains a very dangerous object ahead. Is casino the only reasonable forward looking measure the "Pay To Play 101" bunch could work up? Problems conceptualizing other issues in the realm of anchor investments?

Beyond ill-fated glorification

The single most damaging aspect of the Saipan casino law is the instant destruction of the CNMI's reputation as an *unstable* investment venue.

Mega Stars feels betrayed in deceitful fashion with its planned investments being assured of one thing while policymakers did the complete opposite. Reminds us of Gomer Pyle's favorite expression, "Surprise, surprise, surprise!"

This wasn't necessarily a pleasantry given the negativity it would fan on other investors from Japan and Asia. In short, the anticipated instant gratification in instant soba mindset has bitten the CNMI big time in the butt. The firm simply scrapped its plans for the entire CNMI, the price we pay for compromising foresight! We lied to these investors, didn't we?

As difficult pinning sanity in the wild swing of attitudes and fuzzy sights from upstairs, perhaps this is all part and whole of our favorite discussion known as self-government. There's the missing component in this debate—the proactive participation of those with some sense of humility and leadership to redirect the future of these isles. If you're one of them, please say your piece now!

Sizing up regional events

For the fully informed, it's difficult accepting an industry where there are more fully suited financial players nearby. Casino moguls from Las Vegas have eyed and studied what it calls a "ripe market" to expand its business. It chose Japan and should have an integrated casino and leisurely industry two years from now. It didn't choose Saipan!

The 26 million retired and rich players are in Japan, not Saipan. We have our share of players, many of whom won't squeak through the entrance as food stamps recipients.

Macau has taken a full press court, improving services to lure the top 1 percent of the wealthiest players in the world over. Service includes expensive gifts for spouses of players or players themselves, gifts that would send the CNMI reeling for cover if it chances replicating it. The same is in full focus in Singapore and the Philippines.

The Philippines' casino industry has gone heavily into family activities, including trips to resorts away from Manila where you could experience real relaxation and service at its best, alone or with your family. It has the family thing instituted and consistently works the clock to improve services. I've seen some of these places, perfect venues to frolic in their crystal clear waters and golden sand.

So competition begins to heat up and services refined even before we start our own. It's an eye opener that makes it imperative that we prevent the inevitable—a casino industry—that we would end up subsidizing because it would be broke or bankrupt before it takes off.

Must focus on forte

The State of Aloha has capitalized on its unique culture as an industry over the glitz and glamour of casino. It has done exceedingly well boasting to the world the essence of Polynesia, its people, music, dance, waterfalls, surfing, flora and fauna.

Somehow, the wild beast of disorientation must be domesticated. No one is there to bring it home except "we the people." Strong sense of leadership and organization is the lacking component on issues we've dismissed with complete abandon until it's too late to retrieve and revive them. Think about it!

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

AMP renovations and silver lining

When I first read the news in the paper about the closing of American Memorial Park tennis courts for renovation, the initial emotions that went through my mind was of shock and disbelief!

REALLY? And pigs could fly too! It's hard to believe that after all the years of telling AMP tennis players and the general public the courts were going to be renovated that it was actually going to happen now! After getting over my initial reaction, I started feeling the warm fuzzies for this much waited and anticipated good news! I mean the courts are in such bad shape from years of no maintenance and most of the court lights are dead!

Then it suddenly hit me like a slam dunk! What now? And where the #%&*^%? am I going to play? Big question since the AMP is the only public court on island. So, I started talking to the other AMP regulars and we checked around the hotels. Turns out the Fiesta Resort and Spa and Kanoa Resort have the best prices compared to the others. So, naturally we started reserving the courts to keep up the workout and reduce the daily grind and stresses imposed upon the mind and body.

This went on for a couple of weeks until my friend Ken told me that Lydia Tan wanted to help the AMP players during the renovation period. Not really knowing Lydia but knowing the generosity of the Tan family (monetary donations, services, and materials to the community over the years), I was very happy to hear her talking about it. So it came as no surprise to me when Ken called a couple of days later to inform me the Fiesta and Kanoa courts are open for the AMP players at no charge during the renovation period! I'm like "WOW."

Now, for the folks that don't play tennis, this news might be just a minor note. But to the regulars at AMP, this is not only a generous offer but it shows the Tan family's spirit and commitment to help the community in general.

Imagine this...you're playing this wonderful sport called tennis on a well-maintained tennis court by the beach side, the weather is tropical perfect, the sunset is just spectacular and there's harmonious music playing softly in the background at the beautiful Fiesta and Kanoa hotels...yup, sounds like my idea of tennis paradise!

So, to Lydia and family along with the hotel management and employees, you have my deepest appreciation for this unprecedented and generous privilege. And I firmly believe the other AMP players echo my sentiments. Finally, you can count on me as another volunteer for the annual Tan Holdings Tennis Classic tournament anytime.

Joe Quitugua
Tanapag, Saipan

The Weather

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲86° ▼75°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°

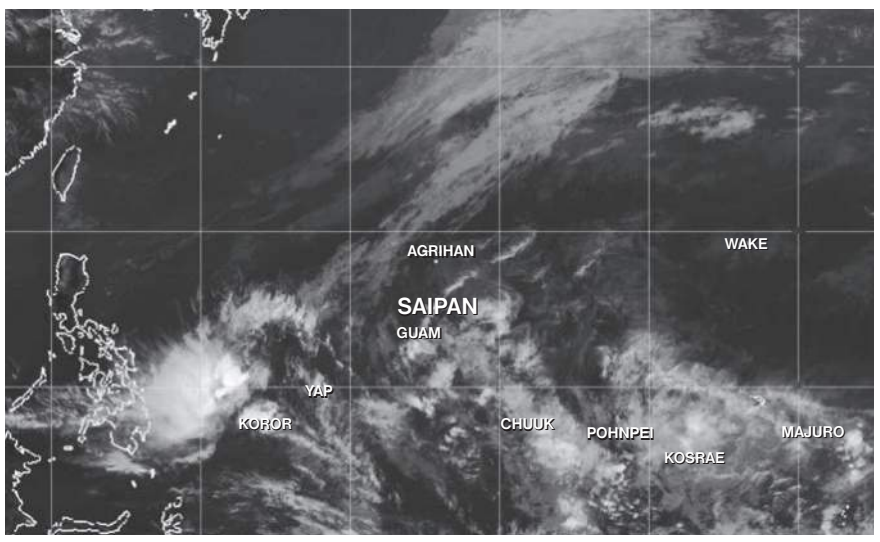
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼79
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲82	▼79
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼79
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲83	▼80

Around The Globe

Auckland	Thundershowers	▲71	▼61
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲68	▼46
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼68
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼68
London	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼44
Los Angeles	Partly Cloudy	▲82	▼60
Manila	Partly Cloudy	▲91	▼77
Melbourne	Showers	▲65	▼57
Miami	Partly Cloudy	▲79	▼70
New York	Sunny	▲60	▼51
Osaka	Partly Cloudy	▲62	▼41
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲63	▼45
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲60	▼53
Rome	Sunny	▲70	▼52
Salem	Mostly Sunny	▲65	▼40
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲65	▼50
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲66	▼49
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲62	▼44
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲72	▼54

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, THURSDAY, APRIL 10, 2014
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Tropical Depression Peipah (05W) is centered 210 miles west-northwest of Koror near 8N132E and remains nearly stationary with maximum sustained winds of 30 mph. Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms are occurring near the center northwest of Koror or 150 miles west of a line from 13N132E to 9N135E to 5N131E and farther north within 100 miles of a line from 13N132E to 17N142E. For additional information, see bulletins issued by the Joint Typhoon Warning Center under WMO header WTPN31 PGTW and the National Weather Service under WMO header WTPQ31 PGUM. A cold front extends southwestward from 25N175E then continues as shear line through east of Minami Tori Shima through 23N165E to near 18N132E. Patchy clouds and light showers are found along and up to 200 miles northwest of this boundary. A near-equatorial trough extends southeastward from Tropical Depression Peipah through a weak circulation centered southwest of Chuuk at 6N147E to end at EQN155E. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are seen near Yap within 75 miles of a line from EQ138E to 10N138E near Chuuk and Pohnpei between 5N and 12N from 144E and 160E. Converging trade winds are generating scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms over eastern Micronesia and the Marshall Islands. Scattered showers are found from the equator to 9N east of 160E.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:25 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.7 Feet
12:40 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.8 Feet
6:09 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:31 PM
Saturday	6:05 AM	6:31 PM
Sunday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Monday	6:04 AM	6:31 PM
Tuesday	6:03 AM	6:31 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:09 PM	3:02 AM
Saturday	3:57 PM	3:42 AM
Sunday	4:47 PM	4:21 AM
Monday	5:37 PM	5:02 AM
Tuesday	6:30 PM	5:44 AM

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- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

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- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

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- Fax: (670) 235-3740
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- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 2, 2014

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA5070	4:15am	5:05am	Daily
UA5068	8:00am	8:50am	3
UA5068	8:40am	9:30am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5078	3:10pm	4:00pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	6:55pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7 via Rota
UA5038	7:45pm	8:35pm	2, 6
UA5078	8:10pm	9:00pm	3

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)

UA5038	5:35pm	6:10pm	2, 6

ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN

UA5038	6:40pm	7:15pm	2, 6

SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)

DL287	6:05am	8:45am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6
DL297	4:30pm	7:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

OZ608	3:10am	6:20am	4, 7

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ604	3:30pm	6:55pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

3U8648	6:10am	8:40am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

MU764	4:00am	8:00am	1, 5

SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)

3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

OZ606/701	2:20am	11:05am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11: 05am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5070/191	4:15am	8:55am	3, 6, 7 via GUM
DL287/473	6:05am	10:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6 via NRT
UA5068/183	8:00am	9:10pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	8:45pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA5078/183	3:10pm	9:10pm	1, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
OZ604/703	3:30pm	10:45pm	Daily via ICN

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
UA5068/179	8:00am	9:55pm	3 via GUM
UA5078/179	3:10pm	9:55pm	1, 5, 6 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	Daily via ICN

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA5069	2:45am	3:35am	Daily
UA5071	6:40am	7:30am	3
UA5071	7:15am	8:05am	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5077	1:50pm	2:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7
UA5039	5:35pm	6:25pm	1, 4, 5, 7
UA5038	5:35pm	7:15pm	2, 6 via Rota
UA5077	6:50pm	7:40pm	3

SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)

UA5039	6:55pm	7:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)

UA5039	8:00pm	8:35pm	1, 4, 5, 7

NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN

DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:55pm	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

OZ607	9:00pm	1:50am+1	3, 6

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

OZ603	8:50am	2:20pm	Daily
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

MU763	7:20pm	3:00am+1	4, 7

GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

DL172/288	7:45am	1:25am+1	1, 3, 4, 5, 7 via NRT
UA190/5039	9:55am	6:25pm	7 via Guam
UA190/5038	9:55am	7:15pm	6 via Rota-Guam
UA190/5077	9:55am	7:40pm	3 via Guam
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ702/605	12:15pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
UA184/5071	10:25pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via Guam
UA184/5038	10:25pm	7:15pm+1	1 via Rota-Guam
UA184/5071	11:30pm	7:30am+1	2 via Guam
UA184/5038	11:30pm	7:15pm+1	5 via Rota-Guam

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:10pm	1:45am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
UA180/5071	9:55pm	8:05am+1	1, 3, 5, 6 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U: Sichuan Airlines; MU: China Eastern; UA: United Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; VLK: Vladivostok Air; SYL: Yakutia Air; D: Dynamic Airways; ORB: OREN AIR.

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

33RD ANNUAL

Flame Tree Arts Festival

APRIL 25-27, 2014 • CIVIC CENTER PARK, SUSUPE

ARTS & CRAFTS

FOOD STALLS

CULTURAL SHOWS

SCHEDULES

Friday, April 25, 2014

- Umang Glee Club Koblerville
- Awadori CNMI Team
- Black Sands
- Tae Kwondo Blue Dragon
- MHS (Poksai Guma Chamorro)
- Saipan Southern Warriors
- Closing

Saturday, April 26, 2014

- Delegation Guam Ginen I Hila' I Maga Taotao Siha
- Delegation San Diego
- Delegation Rota (Traditional Dancers)
- Delegation Rota
- Delegation Rota
- Saipan Southern Warriors
- Delegation Guam Taotao Lagu
- Delegation
- Ukulelel Jammers
- Pua Hinano
- Uncle Ben's Music and Dance (Filipino)
- Alana Ia
- Anna Glushko's Academy
- Reunion Te Kanahau Nui
- Delegation Guam Taotao Lagu
- Hugs and Kisses
- Project Blue
- Closing

Sunday, April 27, 2014

- Delegation Guam Ginen I Hila' I Maga Taotao Siha
- Delegaton Rota
- Delegation Rota
- Delegation Rota traditional dancers
- Delegation San Diego
- Delegation Guam Taotao Lagu
- Maluw Band
- Saipan Southern High Chamoritas
- Item Nine
- Uncle Bens Music and Dance
- Rose Dance School
- Yap Community
- Pacific Flower
- Teivi Maori (Cook island)
- Delegation Guam Taotao Lagu
- Refaluwasch Warriors
- Trunesian Breed
- Closing

GOOD NEWS!

U-LUCK POKER

is happy to announce that we are having a raffle to acknowledge all our valued customers.
We want to express our deepest gratitude by having the following raffles.

GRAND PRIZE!

2014 TOYOTA YARIS WORTH $18,800

1st Prize — ROUND TRIP TICKET FROM SAIPAN TO NEW YORK, USA (2 WINNERS) WORTH $1500/EA.

2nd Prize — ROUND TRIP TICKET FROM SAIPAN TO SHANGHAI, CHINA (2 WINNERS) WORTH $1000.00/EA.

3rd Prize — ONE WEEK ACCOMODATION AT SUNSHINE GARDEN (2 WINNERS) WORTH $623.00/EA.

4th Prize — SCOOTER (2 WINNERS) WORTH $500.00/EA.

5th Prize — GIFT CERTIFICATE FOR SUNSHINE RESTAURANT (2 WINNERS) WORTH $200.00/EA.

Please see the table chart below on how to get your raffle ticket

BET	STRAIGHT FLUSH	5 OF A KIND	ROYAL FLUSH
10 bet - 18 bet ($0.05)	2 ticket	4 ticket	8 ticket
5 bet ($0.25)	2 ticket	5 ticket	25 ticket
6 bet - 10 bet ($0.25)	5 ticket	10 ticket	50 ticket
11 bet - 20 bet ($0.25)	10 ticket	20 ticket	100 ticket
21 bet - 40 bet ($1.00)	20 ticket	40 ticket	200 ticket

"ALL PRIZES CAN'T BE EXCHANGE INTO CASH"

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC
January 13, 2014

To All Our Valued Customers:

We would like to extend our utmost gratitude to all our valued customers by giving good prizes on our raffle promo, but unfortunately, the Department of Finance informed us that the regulations specifically limits the prizes to merchandise valuing less than $35,000.00 and prohibits cash prizes.

We would like to express our deepest apology regarding the changes we've had to make in order for our raffle promo to go on.

We hope for your understanding and continued support.

U-LUCK POKER MANAGEMENT

Tel: 233-0108 • Garapan next to Kimchi Cabana Karaoke
Raffle draw will be held tomorrow at 6:00pm, April 12, 2014

Search continues for missing skiff

HONOLULU—The U.S. Coast Guard continued its search Wednesday for a skiff with two people aboard near Ujae Atoll.

Assisting in the search is an HC-130 Hercules airplane crew from Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point, Oahu, the Republic of Marshall Islands' patrol boat RMIS *Lomor*, and AMVER vessel *Mell Seringat.*

Watchstanders at Joint Rescue Coordination Center Honolulu received notice from the Marshall Islands Sea Patrol Office Saturday afternoon that two people had been swept out to sea aboard a 12-foot skiff that day.

The skiff originally had four people aboard transiting from Ujae Atoll to Bock Island when the engine reportedly failed. Two men jumped overboard and swam back to Ujae while the remaining two stayed aboard the vessel.

Strong winds reportedly swept the skiff out to sea before the men could restart the engine.

As of Tuesday, approximately 9,666 miles have been searched since the skiff went missing. The Coast Guard and its partners continued their search about 281 miles from the Ujae Atoll. Ujae Atoll is about 1,455 miles east of Guam.

To calculate search areas in the complex currents of the Pacific Ocean, watchstanders use the Search and Rescue Optimal Planning System, or SAROPS, a software system that uses simulated particles generated by users in a graphical interface. These particles are then influenced by environmental data to provide information on search object drift. Using information on a point of origin and local currents, it calculates the most likely area to find a person in the water.

AMVER, sponsored by the U.S. Coast Guard, is a unique, computer-based, and voluntary global ship reporting system used worldwide by search and rescue authorities to arrange for assistance to persons in distress at sea. With Amver, rescue coordinators can identify participating ships in the area of distress and divert the best-suited ship or ships to respond. ***(USCG)***

Red flag up on Mañagaha beach, Rota storm drain

The Division of Environmental Quality has red-flagged the Mañagaha Beach and is advising the public not to fish or swim within 300 feet of these locations for the next 48 hours or until otherwise notified. Affected site is next to the Mañagaha Dock.

The division has also red-flagged the District 2 storm drain on Rota. The same advisory applies.

Samples collected from these locations contained excessive concentrations of fecal indicator bacteria (enterococci) that exceeded the CNMI Marine Water Quality Standards. These bacteria can indicate the presence of human and animal waste in the water.

DEQ analyzed a total of 11 samples from the shore surrounding Mañagaha and in 12 locations on Rota this week. For more information, contact DEQ at 664-8500. ***(DEQ)***

Bangladeshi community to mark new year

The Bangladesh Cultural Group will be celebrating the Bangladeshi New Year or Shuvo Nobo-Borsho on Monday, April 14, 2013, from 3pm to 11pm, at the Minatchom Atdao Pavilion in Kilili Beach. This is the year 1421 in the Bangladesh calendar.

The group is inviting everybody to take part in this festive celebration. There will be a program, to be followed by refreshments and games. Among the invited guests is Saipan Mayor Donald Flores.

For more information, contact Bangladesh Cultural Group president Rakibul Islam Minto and secretary Habib Ullah Badal at 287-6065. ***(PR)***

KIA

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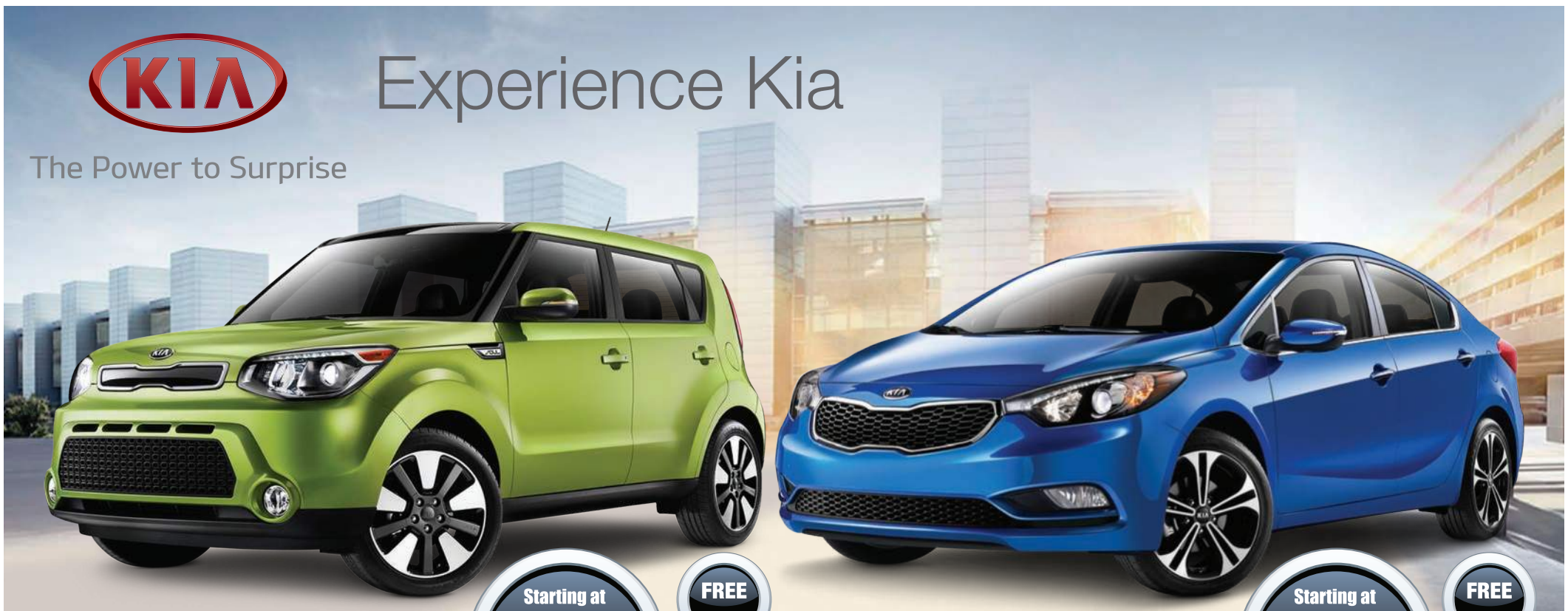
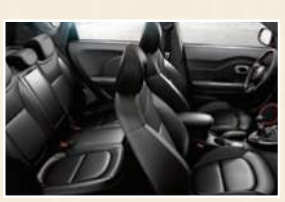
The Power to Surprise



Starting at $139 per paycheck*
FREE Tint
FREE Ziebart Undercoat

ALL-NEW 2014 SOUL

Pushing the boundaries even further



Always moving forward, always evolving... that's the Soul. This exuberant, head-turning car has been given a makeover, with its unique design made even more unique through enhanced detailing, tweaked proportions and modern touches that give it a premium feel from top to bottom.

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* **Kia Soul LX** retail price $18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $300.90 or $138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $18,054.00.

** **Kia Forte LX** retail price $18,995.00 less 20% downpayment. Financing at 7% APR for 60 monthly payments of $300.90 or $138.88 per paycheck based on 26 pay periods per year. Total deferred payment $18,054.00.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

CULTURAL PERFORMERS

Members of Kagman High School's Chamorro Cultural Club get ready to shake the school grounds for the upcoming Cultural Day on April 16. The public is invited to this event. The club is composed of members Sheldeen, Sabrina, Natasha, Sammy, Angie, Mike SN, Coreen, Edel, Flav, Christine, Marie, and Steven. Club adviser is Josie Kaipat.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

MHS dates to remember

- **April 16:** 3rd Quarter Report Card will be distributed to students during the first period.
- **April 16:** Last day for students to sign up for Summer School
- **April 17 – 22:** Spring Break
- **April 23:** DPH annual flu vaccination campaign. Students can take advantage of free flu shots. A signed parent consent form is required.
- **April 26:** Junior-Senior "Vintage Prom" at Saipan World Resort
- **April 28 – May 2:** SAT-10 Testing (9th and 11th grade students are tested)
- **May 2:** Student Service Learning hours due (turn in to respective counselors)
- **May 8:** 4th Quarter Mid-Progress Reports in the gym from 4pm to 6pm
- **May 7 – 16:** Advanced placement testing

For more information, call the Main Office at 237-3206/5 or check out our website at www.marianashighschool.com. ***(PR)***

Free business training on Tinian today

The Small Business Development Center will be conducting a free business training seminar today, April 11, 2014, on Tinian. The topic is "Customer Service for Small Business Owners. It will be held at Room D of Tinian's Northern Marianas College, from 10am to 12pm. It will be presented by Small Business Development Center director Perry Inos Jr. Walk-ins are allowed and granted on space availability. The CNMI Small Business Development Center is partially funded by a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration. ***(PR)***

Free erosion control training

Join the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality for a free workshop to learn about how to manage your land to decrease erosion and protect the environment on Saturday, April 26, 9am to 2pm, at Laolao Bay Golf Resort. Contact Jihan Buniag at 664-8522 or 989-8442 to register. ***(PR)***

MINA, Hyatt sets tree planting

Join the Mariana Islands Nature Alliance and Hyatt Regency Saipan on Earth Day, April 22. MINA, in partnership with Hyatt, will engage with guests, associates, and the community in a native tree planting event at Laolao Bay from 8am onwards. To become a MINA volunteer email us at minaoutreach@gmail.com or call 233-REEF for more details. ***(PR)***

SVES registration for kindergarten

San Vicente Elementary School registration for school year 2014-2015 is scheduled to begin on May 27-30, 2014, for kindergarten only from 9am through 11:30am in the school's main office. Child must be 5 years on or before Sept. 30, 2009, as per BOE policy. For more information, call 664-3981. ***(PR)***

April 2014 is National Distracted Driving Awareness Month
ONE TEXT OR CALL COULD
WRECK
IT ALL
Get the FACTS
TEXTING TAKES YOUR EYES OFF THE ROAD FOR 4.6 SECONDS
At 55 MPH, that's like driving an entire football field blindfolded.
THERE ARE THREE MAIN TYPES OF DISTRACTION
Manual: taking your hands off the wheel
Visual: taking your eyes off the road
Cognitive: taking your mind off driving
VISUAL
MANUAL
COGNITIVE
CELL PHONE USE WAS REPORTED IN 18% DISTRACTION-RELATED FATALITIES IN AMERICA
NHTSA
www.nhtsa.gov
CNMI Department of Public Safety. For more information call:
SAIPAN 664-9001/2 • TINIAN 433-9222 • ROTA 532-9433
The Department of Public Safety is an equal opportunity provider and employer

NMI libraries to join celebration of National Library Week

The CNMI State Library System—composed of Saipan's Joeten Kiyu Public Library, Rota's Antonio C. Atalig Memorial Public Library, and Tinian Municipal Public Library—joins libraries in schools, campuses, and communities nationwide in celebrating National Library Week on April 13-19, a time to highlight the value of libraries, library workers, librarians, and library volunteers. This year's theme is "Lives Change @ Your Library."

Libraries today are more than repositories for books and other valuable resources. Often the hearts of their communities, campuses or schools, libraries are deeply committed to the value-added public spaces where their patrons live, work, and study. Libraries are trusted public spaces where everyone in the community are welcome and can freely gather to reconnect and reengage with each other to enrich their lives, shape their community, and address local issues.

Librarians work with elected officials, small business owners, students, and the general public at large to discover and meet what their communities' needs are. Whether through offering e-books and technology classes, reference assistance for STEM fair projects or resources for school research assignments, programs for jobseekers or those to support early literacy, libraries and library staff listen to the community they serve, and they respond.

"Service to the community has always been the focus of our public libraries," said Mark O. Rabauliman, chairman, CNMI Library Council. "Keeping with its inherent educational value, our libraries have grown and evolved in how they provide for the informational needs of every member of our island community, recommitting ourselves to empower citizens to grow intellectually and be competitive globally."

JKPL executive director John O. DLR. Gonzales said the NMI State Library System, in collaboration with public school libraries, is celebrating National Library Week by hosting an array of educational programs and activities, featuring physical and online resources.

"Libraries specialize in information literacy, information access and retrieval, information organization, and the creation of new information using higher order thinking skills," said Gonzales. "JKPL, for example, is the ideal public resource for research and homework assistance. Got a project? Let JKPL find the information you need to get started. Make an appointment with a librarian today."

First sponsored in 1958, National Library Week is a national observance sponsored by the American Library Association and libraries across the country each April.

For more information, visit the public library on Rota or call 532-7328/29; on Tinian or call 433-0504/05; and on Saipan or call 235-READ (7323) or 7322. You can also visit the state library's website: www.marianaslibrary.org.

Library hours for Tinian's TPL are 9am to 6pm, Mondays to Fridays, and 1pm to 5pm on Saturdays; for Rota's RPL, it is 9am to 5pm, Mondays to Fridays, and 9am to noon on Saturdays; for Saipan's JKPL, it is 10am to 6pm, Mondays to Fridays, and 9am to 4pm Saturdays. ***(PR)***

National Library Week programs

TINIAN PUBLIC LIBRARY

ACTIVITY TIME: 3pm to 4:30pm

AMNESTY WEEK (April 14-19): All fines will be waived on all overdue and/or lost books returned in good condition with a donation or one or two more pack of juicy juice or light buttered popcorn, for the movie night.

- **April 15**: Kinder to 3rd Grade: Read Aloud with guest reader and Arts & Crafts
- **April 16**: 4th to 6th Grade: Keyboarding skills and speed contest
- **April 17**: 7th to 10th Grade: Dewey Hunt Game
- **April 19**: K-3rd & 4th-6th - "I Love This Book – Costume Contest" (Wear the costume on movie night). Movie Night from 6:30pm to 9:30pm

ROTA PUBLIC LIBRARY

- **April 14:** Read Aloud/Crafts at Grace Christian Academy
- **April 15:** Read Aloud/Crafts at Sinapalo Elementary School
- **April 16:** Read Aloud/Crafts at Eskulan San Francisco de Borja
- **April 17:** Free library card replacement & book fines waived
- **April 19:** Free library card replacement & book fines waived

JOETEN-KIYU PUBLIC LIBRARY

- **April 11**: Proclamation signing with Gov. Eloy S. Inos at 9am.
- **April 13-19:** National Library Week is Amnesty Week. All fines will be forgiven on all overdue and/or lost books returned in good condition with a donation of one or more canned food, to be donated to charity.
- **April 15**: Free Library Card Replacement Day
- **April 16**: National Bookmobile Day Celebration at San Antonio Elementary School

  DVD Presentation: Learn How to Use the Library
- **April 17:** JKPL open house - Library Tour

  Awards Ceremony (Special recognition for volunteers, partners, and staff)

  Learn How to Access PREL's EBSCO Database, AV2 Books, and e-books

  CAALM Meeting in Pacific Room at 3:30pm.
- **April 18**: Closed in observance of Good Friday
- **April 19**: Celebrity Read-Aloud and Crafts at 10:30am (COHL)

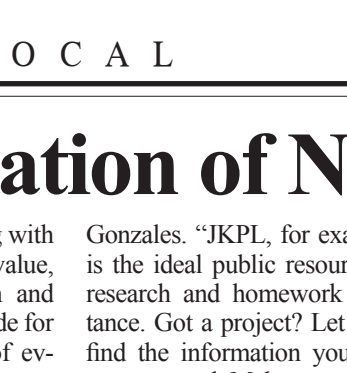
  Family Movie Day at 1pm (COHL)

  Rummage Sale at JKPL parking lot

  Book sale at reduced prices!

  General information meeting for Friends of the Library at JKPL Pacific Room (agenda includes membership, officers nomination, fundraising activities, etc.) ***(PR)***

Your Child at 2 Years



Child's Name _____ Child's Age _____ Today's Date _____

How your child plays, learns, speaks, and acts offers important clues about your child's development. Developmental milestones are things most children can do by a certain age.

Check the milestones your child has reached by his or her 2nd birthday. Take this with you and talk with your child's doctor at every visit about the milestones your child has reached and what to expect next.

What Most Babies Do at this Age:

Social/Emotional
- ❑ Copies others, especially adults and older children
- ❑ Gets excited when with other children
- ❑ Shows more and more independence
- ❑ Shows defiant behavior (doing what he has been told not to)
- ❑ Plays mainly beside other children, but is beginning to include other children, such as in chase games

Language/Communication
- ❑ Points to things or pictures when they are named
- ❑ Knows names of familiar people and body parts
- ❑ Says sentences with 2 to 4 words
- ❑ Follows simple instructions
- ❑ Repeats words overheard in conversation
- ❑ Points to things in a book

Cognitive (learning, thinking, problem-solving)
- ❑ Finds things even when hidden under two or three covers
- ❑ Begins to sort shapes and colors
- ❑ Completes sentences and rhymes in familiar books
- ❑ Plays simple make-believe games
- ❑ Builds towers of 4 or more blocks
- ❑ Might use one hand more than the other
- ❑ Follows two-step instructions such as "Pick up your shoes and put them in the closet."
- ❑ Names items in a picture book such as a cat, bird, or dog

Movement/Physical Development
- ❑ Stands on tiptoe
- ❑ Kicks a ball
- ❑ Begins to run
- ❑ Climbs onto and down from furniture without help
- ❑ Walks up and down stairs holding on
- ❑ Throws ball overhand
- ❑ Makes or copies straight lines and circles

Act Early by Talking to Your Child's Doctor if Your Child:

- ❑ Doesn't use 2-word phrases (for example, "drink milk")
- ❑ Doesn't know what to do with common things, like a brush, phone, fork, spoon
- ❑ Doesn't copy actions and words
- ❑ Doesn't follow simple instructions
- ❑ Doesn't walk steadily
- ❑ Loses skills she once had

Tell your child's doctor or nurse if you notice any of these signs of possible developmental delay for this age, and talk with someone in your community who is familiar with services for young children in your area, such as your state's public early intervention program. For more information, go to **www.cdc.gov/concerned** or call **1-800-CDC-INFO.**

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that children be screened for general development and autism at the 24-month visit. Ask your child's doctor about your child's developmental screening.

Adapted from CARING FOR YOUR BABY AND YOUNG CHILD: BIRTH TO AGE 5, Fifth Edition, edited by Steven Shelov and Tanya Remer Altmann © 1991, 1993, 1998, 2004, 2009 by the American Academy of Pediatrics and BRIGHT FUTURES: GUIDELINES FOR HEALTH SUPERVISION OF INFANTS, CHILDREN, AND ADOLESCENTS, Third Edition, edited by Joseph Hagan, Jr., Judith S. Shaw, and Paula M. Duncan, 2008, Elk Grove Village, IL: American Academy of Pediatrics. This milestone checklist is not a substitute for a standardized, validated developmental screening tool.

HOW IS YOUR BABY GROWING?

If you have any concerns about your child's development, contact the Children's Developmental Assistance Center (CDAC) at 664-4830

Printing funded by the Early Childhood Comprehensive Systems (ECCS) Grant.

www.cdc.gov/actearly | 1-800-CDC-INFO

Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Guam drug traffickers indicted in joint federal, local investigation

HAGATNA, Guam—Alicia A.G. Limtiaco, U.S. Attorney for the Districts of Guam and the Northern Mariana Islands, announced that a federal grand jury has returned a multi-count indictment charging three individuals with conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of methamphetamine, two counts of attempted possession of methamphetamine with intent to distribute, and giving notice of a search warrant.

Jayvin Wyll Ueda Remoket, 30, Frederick A. Obak, 47, And Amos Shioichi Ueda, 46, were arrested Thursday last week by law enforcement agents. A conviction for conspiracy to distribute more than 50 grams of methamphetamine carries a mandatory minimum sentence of 10 years imprisonment and a maximum of life imprisonment.

Initial appearances for defendants were held on April 3, 2014, at 4pm.

This case is the product of an extensive investigation by the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force, a focused multi-agency, multi-jurisdictional task force investigating and prosecuting the most significant drug trafficking organizations throughout the United States by leveraging the combined expertise of federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

This investigation involved federal agents and local law enforcement officers of the Drug Enforcement Administration, Federal Bureau of Investigations, U.S. Postal Inspection Service, and Guam Customs and Quarantine Agency; with assistance from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives, Guam Police Department, Guam Probation Division and Homeland Security Investigations. The case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney Rosetta San Nicolas.

The public is reminded that an indictment contains only allegations and is not evidence of guilt. The defendants are presumed innocent and are entitled to a fair trial at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt. ***(USAO)***

Siberia is now East West

The former Siberia Restaurant is now the East West Seafood & Steaks. SAIPAN TRIBUNE

The erstwhile Siberia Restaurant is now the East West Seafood & Steaks.

Executive chef Boris Shugal said the traditional Russian restaurant has been re-branded into a Western-themed one to cater to the taste buds of tourists and locals alike.

Anita Go, F&B manager, said it all boils down to American food being more popular among tourists—especially Russians—compared to what the old Siberia Restaurant offered.

CONTACT INFO
Tel: 233-7722

Shugal said East West is basically a steakhouse that is comparable to the price market here on island.

Among their bestsellers so far include beef short ribs, filet mignon, T-bone steak, and lamb. They also serve pasta dishes and a varied salad menu, with Scallops Caesar scoring high marks among customers.

However, unlike other steakhouses on island, East West's portions are American-size, which gives diners more bang for their buck.

East West's executive chef also joked that because of the quality of their food, they hope to cool tensions between the West and Russia, which he calls "diplomacy through food."

"We want to combine East and West cuisines, especially now there is tension between Russia and the U.S.," he said, smiling.

Shugal admitted there's also a certain comfort level in shifting back to a more continental cuisine.

"Western cuisine is easier for me now because I worked in the U.S. for so long," said the executive chef, who is a graduate of the French Culinary Institute in New York.

East West also boasts of an extensive wine list that has never failed to surprise diners due to its relative inexpensiveness. "Where else can you buy a good glass of wine for a mere $4?" asked Go.

As for Russian tourists pining for their homeland's food, they won't have to go far, as East West has retained some of their more popular dishes.

"We continue to serve Russian food and in fact we still retained our old Siberian menu. We still have our Siberian menu because Russian children, usually after a week vacationing here, start to pine for Russian food. If people on the island also want to try Russian food we can still serve Siberia Restaurant's most popular dishes," said Go.

East West is also open for private parties for a minimum of 30 guests and its pricing varies.

For example, during the last private party the restaurant catered for involved 60 people and it only charged $15 a plate for a spread that included five kinds of salads, four entrees, a pasta dish, and rice. It also came with a children's buffet that serves pizza, chicken nuggets, and fries.

In the pipeline, according to Shugal, is East West's plan to introduce more unique dishes, among them German-style and seafood sausages.

East West comfortably seats up to 60 guests and is open from 10am to 11pm daily. For reservations and for more information, call 233-7722. *(Saipan Tribune)*

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Medallions of lamb served with berries, mint sauce with couscous.

T-bone steak. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Early Signs of Autism
Learn the Signs. Act Early.

Red flags to watch for from birth to age 3

Social
Children with autism may:
- Not share warm, joyful facial expressions, such as smiles by 6 months
- Not babble and coo by 12 months
- Not respond to their name by 12 months
- Use few or no gestures (e.g., does not wave goodbye, point, etc.) by 12 months
- Not play "pretend" games (pretend to "feed" a doll) by 18 months
- Avoid eye contact
- Avoid other people and prefer to play alone
- Prefer not to be held or cuddled
- Have delayed speech and language skills.

Behavioral
Children with autism may:
- Be very organized (e.g., line up toys or other objects)
- Get upset by minor changes
- Have odd movement patterns (e.g., flaps hands, rocks body, or spins self in circles)
- Have frequent temper tantrums
- Be overly active
- Purposely hurt themselves
- Repeat words or actions over and over
- Look at objects from unusual angles.

Other areas
Children with autism often:
- Are overly sensitive to touch, sounds, taste or smells
- Lack fear in dangerous situations
- Have an intense need for routines
- Have learning difficulties
- Lose skills they once had (for instance, stop saying words they were using).

If you have concerns about your child's development, contact your baby's doctor or call the Children's Developmental Assistance Center at **664-4830** for a free developmental screening.

Children with autism can learn, grow and succeed.

Early action is the key!

Big Steps for Little Feet
Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
CDC Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Information adapted from the Center of Disease Control and Prevention, Learn the Signs. Act Early.
Supported in part by project H25MC06112 from the MCHB (Title V, Social Security Act), HRSA, DHHS.

Giovanni's rolls out new menu

Giovanni's is upping the ante on fine dining as the island's premier Italian restaurant rolls out a revamped menu.

Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabrielle Colombo said the enhanced menu showcases new ingredients and produce that its food and beverage department procured from suppliers in the U.S. mainland and Italy.

"We found new produce and brought them to Saipan for our loyal diners—local and tourists. We created a new menu with more natural flavors with a focus on more gourmet ingredients. We brought in new, high quality ingredients so people can really appreciate and enjoy the taste of our food."

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Hyatt Regency Saipan executive chef Gabrielle Colombo shows off his homemade fettuccine with porcini and walnut cream sauce creation, which is part of Giovanni's revamped menu.

For example, Colombo said, Giovanni's has brought in buffalo mozzarella from Italy and Colorado rack of lamb. Buffalo mozzarella is made from the milk of domestic water buffaloes from the Campana region, while the Colorado rack of lamb—you guessed it—is from Colorado.

"We brought in the Colorado rack of lamb, which is a top quality lamb from the U.S. mainland. Colorado is a mountainous region and its farmers are very focused on growing cattle and lamb and it's fantastic. We've been searching for this kind of quality produce for three of four months and finally we got close to a supplier and we're able to bring this in."

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

"Giovanni's To Go" pizza and salad offerings are literally selling like hotcakes, averaging 17-20 orders a day.

Colombo said the Colorado lamb is tastier and so tender it actually melts in your mouth.

The new ingredient is featured in Giovanni's as Agnello, which is Colorado rack of lamb, thyme, almond crust, bell pepper campote, and kalamata olives.

Buffalo mozzarella, meanwhile, is used in Giovanni's Caprese Salad and Pizza Margarita.

"Buffalo mozzarella is the most expensive cheese in the world," Colombo boasted.

Aside from these enhanced creations, Hyatt's Italian restaurant is also rolling out new pasta and risotto dishes.

"We're focusing on homemade pasta—fettuccine—with a nice fresh pesto of walnut. Also we've introduced Milanese risotto with saffron, with one version called black rice by using squid ink and it's very unique," said Colombo.

To top it off, Hyatt also brought in organic chicken and they still have their signature Certified Angus Beef steaks.

"Hyatt is the place to be for events and special occasions. We want to stay ahead of the competition and that's why we rolled out a new menu," Colombo said.

Staying ahead of the competition is also the driving force behind Hyatt's recently launched "Giovanni's To Go." Colombo said their meals-to-go offering allows everyone to take out artisanal pizzas and salads straight from Giovanni's kitchen.

"We want to make our 'To Go' offerings more affordable and allow more people to try and test our classic Italian-style pizza. We're doing thin-crust using fresh and gourmet ingredients, again to make it different from the competition."

So far so good, as "Giovanni's To Go" has averaged 17 to 20 orders a day, Colombo said.

Items from "Giovanni's To Go" include Three Cheese Pizza, Grilled Chicken Pizza, and Italian Meat Pizza. It ranges in price from $15 to $18. Salads are Mixed Green Salad and Classic Ceasar Salad.

To place orders from "Giovanni's To Go" menu, call 234-1234 Ext. 31. Standard orders usually require a 20-minute wait. Orders can be paid and picked up at Hyatt's DJ's Corner. ***(Saipan Tribune)***

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
Office of the Secretary of Public Works
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai, Saipan, MP 96950

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
DPW14-RFP-002

Topographic and As-Built Survey of Marpo Heights Road Subdivision

Governor Eloy S. Inos, and Lt. Governor Jude U. Hofschneider, through the Department of Public Works (DPW), are soliciting sealed proposals for the ***Topographic and As-Built Survey of Marpo Heights Road Subdivision, Tinian,*** Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations dated May 24, 2001. Proposal procedures shall be in full compliance with §70-30.3-305 of the regulation.

Prior to being awarded a contract, the firm or company must have or obtain a valid Certificate of Authorization (COA) from the CNMI Board of Professional Licensing. Information about obtaining a COA may be requested from Ms. Florence C. Sablan, Executive Director, at (670) 234-5897/5898 or fax (670) 234-6040.

The Request for Proposal and Scope of Work is available on or after ***April 11, 2014*** at the Department of Public Works, Technical Services Division, Suite 207, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan.

A ***Mandatory Pre-Proposal Conference*** is scheduled for 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works, Conference Room, Room 212, 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center on April 30, 2014 . Questions regarding this RFP must be submitted in writing to **Mr. Vicente C. Cabrera, Acting Director of Technical Services Division,** 2nd Floor, Oleai Joeten Commercial Center, Saipan, or faxed to (670) 234-3547 no later than 2:30 p.m. local time May 07, 2014.

Proposers must submit with their proposal a Project Approach and Schedule of Completion, which details how the work will be accomplished by the consultants, given the time requirements and resources available as identified in their proposals.

Proposers shall also submit a separate statement of qualifications (résumés and experience). The total proposal submitted shall be no more than ten (10) pages in length. Note that a firm, which submits a proposal as a prime consultant, cannot submit as a subcontractor on another proposal. However, only sub-consultants may be included in multiple proposals by different consultants.

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following criteria:

1. ***Qualifications of Principal(s) and Staff assigned to the Project - 40%***
2. ***Experience and Past Performance of Firm (s) on similar Project - 35%***
3. ***Response to Request For Proposal - 15%***
4. ***Cost - 10%***

Sealed proposals must be marked "**DPW14-RFP-002**". For Proposers within the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of proposals must be submitted no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, May 14, 2014, to the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement & Supply, Lower Base, Saipan. Proposers located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their proposal by submitting a. **Notice of Intent to Propose**. Notices of Intent to submit proposal must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time, May 14, 2014, and may be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For Proposers located outside the CNMI, one original and five (5) copies of sealed proposals must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than May 14, 2014 and must be received no later than May 21, 2014. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a proposal.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes that will be charged to the proposer(s) awarded a contract for the project, including excise tax.

The government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to waive any imperfections in any proposal if, in its opinion to do so, would be in the best interest of the government. All proposals shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ VICENTE C. CABRERA
Acting Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality
Division of Coastal Resources Management
P.O. Box 10007, Saipan, MP 96950 • Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315
www.crm.gov.mp

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
April 11 , 2014

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE CRM OFFICES:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Saipan Sea Ventures	03/05/2014 SPIm-2014-X-014	Dry Dock Activities	South Sea Plane	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (03/05/2014)*
2. John Stephen Athens	04/02/2014 ASm-2014-X-015	Archaeological Research	Alamagan	Shoreline APC	Under Review
3. Pacific Marine	03/25/2014 PIm-2014-X-016	Dry Dock Activities	South Seaplane	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved(03/31/2014)*
4. Coral Ocean Point Inc.	04/04/2014 SMS-85-X-69(2014 A)	Beach Maintenance (COP)	Coral Ocean Point Areas	Amendment	Under Review
5. Sea Lago Inc.	04/07/2014 SPIm-2014-X-017	Dry Dock	Able Dock	Ports & Industrial APC	Approved (04/10/2014)*
6. DTC Saipan	04/08/2014 SSm-2014-X-018	Photographic Activities	Shoreline Areas	Shoreline APC	Approved (04/10/2014)*
7. DCCA	04/09/2014 SSm-2014-X-019	33rd Flame Tree Arts Festival	Civic Center	Shoreline APC	Under Review

Publication of the above list is in accordance with CRM Regulations, which require all permit applications to be published in a local newspaper within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the CRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the CRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APC's) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local CRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a CRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the CRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the CRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the CRM Regulations.

Business

Toyota, GM recalls push US to near-record pace

DETROIT (AP)—Big U.S. recalls by General Motors and Toyota have put the auto industry on a record pace as companies try to avoid bad publicity and punishment from an increasingly aggressive government.

On Wednesday, Toyota announced it was recalling nearly 1.8 million vehicles in the U.S. to fix a spate of problems, including air bags that might not inflate. It's part of a worldwide recall of 6.4 million cars and trucks.

So far this year, automakers have recalled about 9 million vehicles in the U.S. If that pace continues, the nation would break the record of 30.8 million recalled vehicles set in 2004.

Most of the recalls are from Toyota and General Motors, two automakers that are under government scrutiny and facing bad publicity and allegations that they concealed safety issues.

Toyota's latest recalls were announced before the company even developed specific repairs. They come two weeks after the Justice Department skewered the Japanese automaker for covering up problems that caused unintended acceleration in some cars starting in 2009. Toyota agreed to pay $1.2 billion to settle that case, but federal prosecutors can resurrect a wire fraud charge if the company fails to comply with the terms of the settlement.

Tracking recalls

Automobile recalls are on track to break recent records. So far this year, automakers have recalled more than 17 million vehicles, compared to 22 million in all of 2013.

Major recalls to date

April 9	Toyota	6.4 million
April 7	Ford	435,000
April 5	Mazda	42,000
April 2	Chrysler	870,000
April 1	GM	1.3 million brings total to more than 6 million
March 31	GM	664,000
March 27	GM	656
March 26	Nissan	1 million
March 17	GM	1.5 million
March 17	Honda	900,000
Feb. 13	GM	780,000
Feb. 12	Toyota	1.9 million
Feb. 10	GM	2.2 million

Source: U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, Los Angeles Times, Aol Autos
Graphic: Pat Carr

© 2014 MCT

AP-GfK Poll: Most Americans say filing taxes easy

WASHINGTON (AP)—Struggling to figure out your federal tax return? You're not alone, but you're in the minority.

With the tax filing deadline looming next week, a majority of Americans say completing a federal tax return is easy, according to a new Associated Press-GfK poll.

The findings defy conventional wisdom in Washington, where politicians have made careers out of promising a simpler tax system. In another blow to advocates of tax reform, almost no one is willing to pay higher taxes in exchange for a simpler code.

"If you've got the equivalent of a high school degree and you know how to do math, it's very simple," said Sara Thornton, a small business owner from East Granby, Conn.

Only 7 percent of those surveyed say they would be willing to pay more in federal taxes if the process of filling out a tax return were easier. Some 90 percent say "no, thanks."

"No, because I don't know that it is that difficult," said Alicia Brown of suburban Des Moines, Iowa. "We already pay outlandish taxes because we live in Iowa. We have very high real estate taxes."

United Airlines' 1st Boeing 787-9 rolls out of factory

CHICAGO—United Airlines' first 787-9 Dreamliner rolled out of final assembly Tuesday evening at Boeing's Everett, Wash., facility. The rollout marks the first major milestone in the aircraft's production ahead of its expected delivery this summer. The Boeing 787-9 Dreamliner is the second and newest member of the fuel-efficient 787 family. With the fuselage stretched 20 feet longer than the 787-8, United's 787-9 will fly more than 30 additional passengers and up to 300 nautical miles farther with the same exceptional environmental performance, including up to 20 percent less fuel burn per seat and up to 20 percent fewer emissions than similarly sized aircraft. The airline is the North American launch customer for the aircraft.

"The 787-9 is an amazing aircraft that builds on the 787-8's proven fuel efficiency, performance and customer comfort," said Ron Baur, United's vice president of fleet. "We are excited to add the 787-9 to our Dreamliner fleet as it gives us even more flexibility and range to capitalize on our extensive worldwide route network."

Earlier this year, United announced that it will fly the 787-9 on nonstop service between its hub at Los Angeles International Airport and Melbourne, Australia, beginning in October. The airline will fly the route six times weekly with the aircraft. United will be the first North American carrier to take delivery of the 787-9, and this will be the airline's first international deployment of the aircraft type.

Over the next several months, the aircraft will move to the next phase of completion, which includes final cabin configuration and painting. United's 787-9 will be configured with 252 seats – 48 in United BusinessFirst and 204 in United Economy, including 88 Economy Plus seats with added legroom and increased personal space. United's first 787-9 will also be one of five aircraft used by Boeing in a flight test program to certify the aircraft. ***(United Airlines)***

MAKING MEANINGFUL CONNECTIONS

www.childwelfare.gov

(Saipan Tribune)
Government officials, advocates, students, and supporters pose for a group photo after yesterday's proclamation signing at the Multi-Purpose Center to raise awareness about sexual assault, child abuse and neglect, and early childhood.

Parental Resilience. Take quiet time to reenergize. Do physical exercise. Share your feelings with someone you trust. Be with supportive people.

Social Connections. Participate in community and neighborhood activities. Join a playgroup or a parent and children support group.

Concrete Supports for Parents. Have a list of people or places to call for help and support including housing, food, health care, education and counseling.

Social and Emotional Competence of Children. Let your children know they are loved and feel they belong. Make sure everyone who cares for your child is aware of your regular routines around mealtimes, naps, and bedtime. Teach and encourage children to solve problems in age appropriate ways. Family meals are important times to connect with your children.

April is Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention and Awareness Month

When we make meaningful connections with the children, youth, and families in our communities, we can help parents build the knowledge and skills and access the resources necessary to raise happy and healthy children. Everyone can play a role in preventing child abuse and neglect and promoting child and family well-being.

Get involved to strengthen families in your community!

- Meet and greet your neighbors
- Go to a parents meeting at your child's school
- Participate in an activity at your local library or community center
- Set up a playgroup in your community at homes or local park
- Organize a community babysitting co-op
- Volunteer at your child's school through the administration or PTSAs
- Encourage local service providers to offer available services that are easy to find in the community
- Organize a community event (a block party, support group)
- Run for an office in the PTSA at your child's school
- Attend local government meetings (community meetings or school board meetings and let them know how important resources are in your community. Let them know how parks, strong schools, and accessible services help to strengthen your families.

Photos: Provided by DYS

CAN School Presentation Schedule

April 4: CHA-CHA 6th at 9:00am in the Cafeteria (Quaid & Julian)
April 5: Talabwog Starts Summit (Parents and Youth (Darcie & Quaid)
April 8: Tanapag K-2 at 12:30pm / San Vicente 4th at 1:30pm
April 9: Tanapag 3rd - 4th at 12:30pm / SDA Staff at 4:30pm
April 10: WSR 3rd – 4th at 9:00am in the Cafeteria
Tanapag 5th – 6th at 12:30pm
April 11: WSR 5th – 6th at 9:00am in the Cafeteria
April 12: Week of the Young Child
April 14: KES K-2nd at 9:00am in the Cafeteria
April 15: KES 3rd – 4th at 9:00am in the Cafeteria, DCCA PD
April 16: 5th – 6th at 9:00am in the Cafeteria DCCA PD
April 17: PSS Off
April 18: PSS Off
April 21: PSS Off
April 22: PSS Off
April 26: 5K Run Flame Tree

What you can do to prevent Child Sexual Abuse:

It is important to keep the focus on adult responsibility, while teaching children skills to help them protect themselves. Take an active role in your children's lives. Learn about their activities and people whom they are involved. Stay alert for possible problems.

For more information, call:
DYS Main Line: 664-2550 / **Fax:** 664-2566 • **DYS Child Protection Unit:** 664-2565/2556
Fax: 664-2562 • **DYS Rota:** 532-9351 • **DYS Tinian:** 433-2950 • **Website:** www.dys.gov.mp

Nation

Teen stabs 22 at Pittsburgh-area high school

MURRYSVILLE, Pa. (AP)—Flailing away with two kitchen knives, a 16-year-old boy with a "blank expression" stabbed and slashed 21 students and a security guard in the crowded halls of his suburban Pittsburgh high school Wednesday before an assistant principal tackled him.

At least five students were critically wounded, including a boy whose liver was pierced by a knife thrust that narrowly missed his heart and aorta, doctors said. Others also suffered deep abdominal puncture wounds.

The rampage—which came after decades in which U.S. schools geared much of their emergency planning toward mass shootings, not stabbings—set off a screaming stampede, left blood on the floor and walls, and brought teachers rushing to help the victims.

Police shed little light on the motive.

The suspect, Alex Hribal, was taken into custody and treated for a minor hand wound, then was brought into court in shackles and a hospital gown and charged with four counts of attempted homicide and 21 counts of aggravated assault. He was jailed without bail, and authorities said he would be prosecuted as an adult.

At the brief hearing, District Attorney John Peck said that after he was seized, Hribal made comments suggesting he wanted to die.

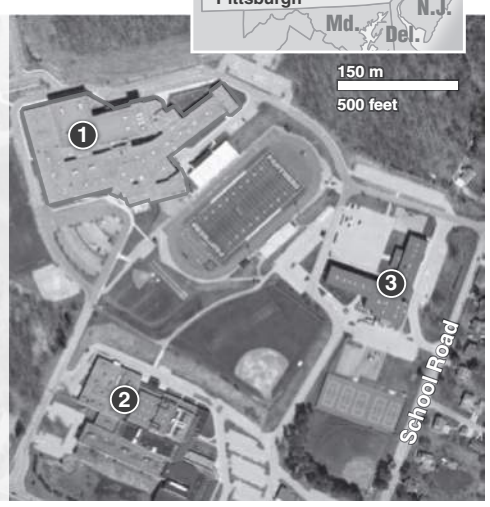
Defense attorney Patrick Thomassey described him as a good student who got along with others, and asked for a psychiatric examination.

The attack unfolded in the morning just minutes before the start of classes at 1,200-student Franklin Regional High School, in an upper-middle-class area 15 miles east of Pittsburgh.

It was over in about five minutes, during which the boy ran wildly down about 200 feet of hallway, slashing away with knives 8 to 10 inches long, police said.

Mass stabbing at school

A male student was taken into custody after he went on a stabbing and slashing spree, leaving at least 20 people injured at a high school near Pittsburgh.



1. Franklin Regional High School
20 people injured

2. Franklin Regional Middle School
High school students moved here after incident

3. Newlonsburg Elementary School
All classes canceled following incident

Injured in attack

- At least 19 students, one adult injured; wounds to torso, abdomen, chest and back areas; some injured in mayhem that followed attack
- Six hospitals treating victims
- Four people flown to hospitals by helicopter
- All victims expected to survive

The suspect

- Incident began at about 7:13 a.m. ET; happened in classrooms, hallway
- 16-year-old sophomore at the high school, in police custody

© 2014 MCT

Source: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, ESRI, Aerogrid, AEX, GeoEye, Getmapping, i-cubed, IGN, IGP, GIS User Community, USDA, USGS
Graphic: Melina Yingling

AP

Alex Hribal, the suspect in the multiple stabbings at the Franklin Regional High School in Murrysville, Pa., is escorted by police to a district magistrate to be arraigned on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Export, Pa.

ACROSS THE NATION

1 child dead, 14 hurt in Florida day care crash

WINTER PARK, Fla. (AP)—A car smashed into an Orlando-area day care Wednesday, killing a girl and injuring 14 others, at least a dozen of them children, and authorities were searching for the driver of an SUV who they say started the crash, officials said. A Toyota Solara convertible went out of control after it was struck by a Dodge Durango, jumped a curb and smashed into the day care, breaking through the wall and into the building, said Florida Highway Patrol spokesman Wanda Diaz. The convertible driver was not hurt. The Durango left the scene but was located almost two hours later after it had been abandoned at a home. The highway patrol said it is looking for 26-year-old Robert Corchado, who has been arrested eight times since 2000, according to Florida Department of Law Enforcement records.

California man confesses to 40 killings

FRESNO, Calif. (AP)—A suspected contract killer charged in Central California with killing nine people confessed to investigators that he carried out up to 40 slayings in a career spanning decades, a prosecutor said Wednesday. Errek Jett, the district attorney in Lawrence County, Ala., said that Jose Manuel Martinez, 51, told investigators he carried out the crimes working as an enforcer for a drug cartel. Jett said they believe Martinez because of the details he gave investigators. Martinez was arrested last year shortly after crossing the border from Mexico into Arizona and sent to Alabama, where he awaits trial on one murder charge. Once word got out, a steady stream of investigators from across the country came to question Martinez, Jett said.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

This ad is paid for by NMHC funds.

Notice is hereby given that the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) is the agency authorized to allocate Low Incoming Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) in the CNMI. The United States 1986 Tax Reform Act created the federal low-income housing tax credit program under Section 42 of the Internal Revenue Code (Code) to assist with the development of low-income rental housing by providing qualified owners with credit to offset their federal tax obligations. The LIHTC is available to owners/developers of qualifying buildings and projects that meet certain low-income occupancy and rent restrictions.

Section 42 of the Code provides that the CNMI prepare a Qualified Allocation Plan (QAP) to determine housing priorities and to give preference to projects serving the lowest income tenants and projects obligated to serve qualified tenants for the longest periods. The QAP must incorporate selection criteria, which includes project location, housing need characteristics, sponsor characteristics, tenant populations with special needs, and public housing waiting lists.

NMHC has developed a QAP and is available at NMHC's office. The QAP describes the basis that NMHC will use to allocate LIHTCs. NMHC may allocate **$2,466,520.00** in LIHTCs for the 2014 program year.

Application for LIHTCs

Owners/Developers wishing to apply for the LIHTCs should obtain and complete a LIHTC Application. The LIHTC Application may be obtained from NMHC's Office in Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950 or through our website at www.nmhc.gov.mp.

Owners/Developers must file the completed LIHTC Application along with the **$1,000.00 Application Fee** in NMHC's Office by the Application Deadline of **4:30 pm, June 30, 2014**. NMHC staff will review the application and will notify the Owner/Developer of any deficiencies by 15 days time or **July 15, 2014**. The owner/developer will be given 14 days to correct any deficiencies. Any corrections or supplemental information requested by NMHC must be received by **July 29, 2014**. The projects will be scored and recommendations made to the NMHC Board of Directors for approval at its **August 2014** Board Meeting.

Notification of Awards

NMHC will notify Owners/Developers of the projects receiving LIHTCs thirty (30) days following the August 2014 Board of Directors meeting. The reservation letter must be signed and returned to NMHC by no later than thirty (30) days from the date of notification.

For more information on this program, please contact NMHC at 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

/s/ **JESSE S. PALACIOS**
Corporate Director

NMHC will make necessary arrangements for persons with disabilities or persons requiring interpreters upon prior notification. Should you require such arrangements, please contact Ms. Jocelyn Seman at telephone numbers 234-6866/7670/7689/9447.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
Tel. (670) 234-6866/234-9447/234-7689/234-7670 - Fax. (670) 234-9021
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp

The Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), as auctioneer and seller, hereby gives notice that all the rights, title and interests of NMHC in and to the following described real property will be sold at auction:

Lot No.: 003 D 22 AEDTFA ST. GARAPAN (Annex), SAIPAN MINIMUM BID: $76,950.00

The auction will be open to the general public and will be held at NMHC's conference room, Garapan, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. on May 5, 2014, subject to the following terms and conditions:

1. Minimum Bid. The minimum acceptable bid for each property shall be $(please see above).
2. Reserve. The auction sale shall be held with reserve.
3. Rights and Duties of NMHC as Auctioneer. Consistent with the custom and usage and applicable law of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands governing auction sales with reserve, NMHC shall have the following rights and duties in conducting the auction sale:
   a. To withdraw any property listed for sale in this announcement before sale or before a bid for such property is accepted.
   b. To adjourn the sale without notice at any time before any specific property is struck off, without incurring any liability whatsoever thereby; and
   c. To reject any and all bids.
4. Bids. Tentative bids may be submitted in advance for any and all of the property listed in this notice. Such bids shall not be binding, except that the highest of such bids will automatically be considered the opening bid for the item. Bids may be entered in person, in writing, or by telephone to Mr. Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director, NMHC, P.O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950; Telephone: 234-6866; Facisimile: 234-9021; or to Law Office of Vicente T. Salas, P.O. Box 501309, Saipan, MP 96950, Phone: 234-7455, Fax: 234-7256.
5. Deposit; Payment. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the purchase price must be paid on the day of the auction sale by cash, cashier's check or credit card (Visa or Mastercard).The remaining balance will be due within three (3) calendar days of the auction sale. Failure to make payment of the remaining balance within three (3) calendar days will result in forfeiture by the buyer of the ten percent (10%) deposit, and any and all of the buyer's rights, title and interest in any of the aforementioned property will automatically revert to NMHC.
6. Change of Terms. NMHC reserves the right to change any of the terms of conduct and enforcement of sale by announcement, written or oral, made before the auction sale or at the commencement thereof, and such change or changes, by virtue of this clause, shall be binding on any buyer by constructive notice.
7. Inspection and No Warranty. Bidders are cautioned to inspect the title and property. The interests of NMHC in the property are being sold "AS IS" and without warranty. Failure to inspect the real property or any related documents will not constitute a ground for any claim, adjustment or rescission by any buyer.

Dated this 2nd day of April, 2014.

/s/ Jesse S. Palacios, Corporate Director
Northern Marianas Housing Corporation

Asia

More 'pings' raise hopes Flight 370 will be found

PERTH, Australia (AP)—Planes and ships hunting for the missing Malaysian jetliner zeroed in on a targeted patch of the Indian Ocean on Thursday, after a navy ship picked up underwater signals that are consistent with a plane's black box.

Thursday's search zone was the smallest yet in the monthlong hunt for Flight 370, and comes a day after the Australian official in charge of the search expressed hope that crews were closing in on the "final resting place" of the vanished jet.

Angus Houston, who is coordinating the search off Australia's west coast, said Wednesday that equipment on the Australian vessel Ocean Shield had picked up two sounds from deep below the surface on Tuesday, and an analysis of two other sounds detected in the same general area on Saturday showed they were consistent with a plane's flight recorders, or "black boxes."

"I'm now optimistic that we will find the aircraft, or what is left of the aircraft, in the not-too-distant future," Houston said Wednesday.

No further sounds had been picked up overnight, Houston's search coordination center said Thursday. But the Ocean Shield was continuing its hunt, slowly dragging a U.S. navy pinger locator through the ocean's depths, hoping to find the signal again and get a more specific fix on its location.

Meanwhile, 14 planes and 13 ships were looking for floating debris across the 57,900 square kilometer (22,300 square mile) search zone, about 2,300 kilometers (1,400 miles) northwest of Perth, and China's Haixun 01 was using underwater acoustic equipment to search for signals in an area several hundred miles south of the Ocean Shield. A "large number of objects" had been spotted by crews combing the area on Wednesday, but the few that had been retrieved by search vessels were not believed to be related to the missing plane, the coordination center said.

Search crews hunting for debris have already looked in the area they were crisscrossing on Thursday, but were moving in tighter patterns, now that the search zone has been narrowed to about a quarter the size it was a few days ago, Houston said.

Finding the flight data and cockpit voice recorders soon is important because their locator beacons have a battery life of about a month, and Tuesday marked one month since Flight 370 vanished en route from Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, to Beijing with 239 people aboard.

If the batteries fail before the recorders are located, finding them in such deep water—about 4,500 meters, or 15,000 feet—would be difficult, if not impossible.

"I believe we are searching in the right area, but we need to visually identify aircraft wreckage before we can confirm with certainty that this is the final resting place of MH370," Houston said. "For the sake of the 239 families, this is absolutely imperative."

The hope expressed by Houston on Wednesday contrasted with the frustrating monthlong search for the Boeing 777, which disappeared shortly after takeoff in one of the biggest mysteries in aviation history. The plane veered off-course for an unknown reason, with officials saying that satellite data indicates it went down in the southern Indian Ocean. The black boxes could help solve that mystery.

The signals detected 1,645 kilometers (1,020 miles) northwest of Perth by the Ocean Shield are the strongest indication yet that the plane crashed and is now at the bottom of the ocean in the area where the search is now focused.

A data analysis of the signals heard Saturday determined they were distinct, man-made and pulsed consistently, Houston said.

"They believe the signals to be consistent with the specification and description of a flight data recorder," he said.

To assist the Ocean Shield, the Australian navy dropped buoys by parachute in a pattern near where the signals were last heard.

ASIA BRIEFS

Hagel seeks to increase ties with Mongolia

ULAN BATOR, Mongolia (AP)—U.S. Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel is seeking to bolster U.S. military relations with Mongolia as he wraps up 10-day trip to the Asia-Pacific. Hagel's stop Thursday in Ulan Bator put him in between China and Russia, two global powers that the U.S. has been sparring with over territorial disputes involving U.S. allies. And it underscored a repeated message he delivered over the past 10 days urging nations to respect their neighbors and to resolve disagreements peacefully. Arriving here after spending three days in China meeting with leaders, Hagel was expected to thank the fledgling Democratic nation for its contributions to the Iraq and Afghanistan wars. He was to meet with Mongolian Defense Minister Bat-Erdene.

Safety ruling clears PH to add US flights

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Officials say U.S. aviation authorities have cleared Philippine airlines to increase flights to the United States after safety standards improved. The U.S. Embassy in Manila said Thursday that the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration's assessment found the Philippines now meets international safety standards. Since January 2008, the Philippines had been rated by the FAA as not meeting minimum International Civil Aviation Organization standards covering its ability to ensure airline safety.

Pakistan toddler swept up in attempted murder case

LAHORE, Pakistan (AP)—A 9-month-old Pakistani boy has been swept up in an attempted murder investigation that highlights the country's dysfunctional criminal justice system where even children are not immune from questionable legal decisions. The toddler was brought to court last Friday as part of an investigation relating to an incident where residents in his neighborhood clashed with police. He was granted bail by a judge. The incident began in late January and touches on many of the challenges Pakistan faces such as electricity shortages and faulty police investigations.

Bomb blast in Pakistani capital kills 22

ISLAMABAD (AP)—A bomb ripped through a fruit and vegetable market on the outskirts of Islamabad on Wednesday, killing 22 people and wounding dozens more in a new attack in the Pakistani capital, which until recently had remained relatively removed from shootings and bombings that plague other parts of the country.

Confusion over who carried out the morning blast underlined one of Pakistan's central woes— the sheer number of armed groups waging violence for multiple motives.

The Pakistani Taliban, which has led a campaign of bombings and shootings for years aimed at toppling the government, quickly denied responsibility, saying in a statement that it is adhering to a ceasefire for negotiations. Offshoots of the group have carried out at least one attack during the cease-fire.

A separatist group of ethnic Baluch claimed responsibility for Wednesday's attack. Baluch separatists have been fighting a bloody insurgency for years in their heartland in the southwest of the country. They have rarely struck as far away as the capital, and if they were to blame, it could represent a worrying expansion of their reach.

But the Interior Ministry called the Baluch claim "ludicrous" and said initial investigations did not suggest the group was involved. In a statement, it said the incident "pointed in another direction," but did not elaborate.

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITIATION TO BID
2014-CDA-03-ITB

Submission & Opening Date: April 25, 2014
Time: 10:00 a.m.

"SUPPLY OF TABLETS, BLUETOOTH KEYBOARDS and CASES FOR CDA"

Copies of the specifications may be picked up at the Commonwealth Development Authority Office, 2nd Floor in Oleai, Saipan during regular working hours.

The Commonwealth reserves the right to reject any and all bids and proposals in whole or in part, and to waive any imperfection in a bid in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All bids shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/S/ MANUEL A. SABLAN
Executive Director

/S/HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

RFP NO.: RFP14-DPS-085
SUBMISSION DATE: MAY 01, 2014 TIME: 2:00 P.M.

"PURCHASE, DELIVERY AND INSTALLATION OF AN INTEGRATED BUILDING MANAGEMENT AND SECURITY SYSTEM FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY-BUREAU OF MOTOR VEHICLES"

The RFP packet will be available on or after March 28, 2014 and may be picked-up at the Office of the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Drive, Saipan, during regular working hours.

A pre-proposal meeting will be held on April 15, 2014 at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Department of Public Safety, Conference Room, Susupe, Saipan.

Questions for this RFP may be submitted to Police Officer James R. Rabauliman, Project Manager via e-mail at jrrabauliman@dps.gov.mp no later than the close of business April 17, 2014. Responses to questions shall be shared with other proposers and will be sent out no later than the close of business, April 22, 2014.

The CNMI government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or portions thereof, and waive immaterial defects if to do so would be in the best interest of the CNMI government. All proposals received shall become the property of the CNMI government.

/s/ JAMES C. DELEON GUERRRERO
Commissioner of DPS

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Abelina T. Mendiola
P.O. Box 511729
Rota, MP 96951
532-4758
287-3437

Pro Se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN RE THE ESTATE OF MARCELINA A. TAITANO : CIVIL ACTION NO. 14-0041

Deceased : NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATOR, FOR LETTERS OF ADMINISTRATION AND NOTICE TO CREDITORS

TO: ALL HEIRS, DEVISEES, LEGATEES AND CREDITORS OF: MARCELINA A. TAITANO, DECEASED

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE that Abelina T. Mendiola has filed with the Clerk of this Court her Petition for Letters of Administration of the Estate of Marcelina A. Taitano, deceased. A Hearing has been set for the above-entitled matter and will be held in the Rota Courtroom of the Commonwealth Superior Court, located at the Rota Courthouse, Sinapalo I, Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands at 9:00 a.m. on May 16, 2014

For further particulars, please refer to the Petition on file herein, or contact petitioner Abelina T. Mendiola, P.O. Box 511729, Rota MP 96951

CREDITORS of decedent or of her estate are hereby notified that they must file their claims with the Clerk of the Superior Court within sixty (60) days of the first publication of this Notice, or the claims will be forever barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to the petitioner at the address herein - above indicated.

DATED: April 9, 2014

Patrick V. Diaz
Clerk of Court

/s/ Daisy Mendiola
Deputy Clerk

WORLD RESORT

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

OPEN DATE: April 7, 2014 POSITION: Server
CLOSE DATE: April 14, 2014 SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in food service preferred. Position may require employee to receive food handler related health examinations and clearances as condition to their continued employment. Friendly personality, willingness to serve and a readily smiling individual highly preferred. Four (4) positions are currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 7, 2014 POSITION: Housekeeping
CLOSE DATE: April 14, 2014 SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum two (2) years experience in housekeeping or commercial cleaning preferred. Must have a friendly personality and willingness to provide customer service. One (1) position is currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 7, 2014 POSITION: Landscaper
CLOSE DATE: April 14, 2014 SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent required. Two (2) years of experience in related field strongly preferred. One (1) position is currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 7, 2014 POSITION: Mechanic & Electrician
CLOSE DATE: April 14, 2014 SALARY: Negotiable

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent required. Minimum of two (2) years of formal mechanical experience or mechanical training is required. Two years of experience in related field strongly preferred. Two (2) positions are currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 7, 2014 POSITION: Bellhop
CLOSE DATE: April 14, 2014 SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent required. A valid Driver's License is required. Experience as a hotel bellhop preferred. Must have excellent people skills, willingness to provide service, friendly attitude and a ready smile. One (1) position is currently available.

OPEN DATE: April 7, 2014 POSITION: Lifeguard
CLOSE DATE: April 14, 2014 SALARY: Minimum Wage

Qualifications:
High school graduate or equivalent required. Obtaining a lifeguard certification may be a required for continued employment. Must have friendly and outgoing personality. Four (4) positions are currently available.

For more information, please contact the Human Resources Team at (670) 234-5900 ext. 274/266/576.
Employment application forms are available at the Saipan World Resort, Security Office, located next to the Wave Jungle/Water Park. Applicants must submit the completed form and all the necessary requirements to the Security Office. Incomplete application will not be accepted by the Security Office.

World

AP Interview: US troops may be sent to E Europe

PARIS (AP)—NATO's top military commander in Europe, drafting countermoves to the Russian military threat against Ukraine, said Wednesday they could include deployment of American troops to alliance member states in Eastern Europe now feeling at risk.

U.S. Air Force Gen. Philip Breedlove told The Associated Press he wouldn't "write off involvement by any nation, to include the United States."

Foreign ministers of the 28-nation alliance have given Breedlove until Tuesday to propose steps to reassure NATO members nearest Russia that other alliance countries have their back.

"Essentially what we are looking at is a package of land, air and maritime measures that would build assurance for our easternmost allies," Breedlove told the AP. "I'm tasked to deliver this by next week. I fully intend to deliver it early."

Asked again if American soldiers might be sent to NATO's front-line states closest to Russia, the four-star U.S. general said, "I would not write off contributions from any nation."

In March, Russian troops took control of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula, whose inhabitants then voted in a referendum to secede and join Russia. The U.S. and other Western countries have accused Moscow of massing troops on Ukraine's border to maintain the pressure on the government in Kiev, and possibly for military use.

AP

NATO Supreme Allied Commander Europe, U.S. Air Force General Philip Breedlove gestures during an interview with the Associated Press in Paris, Wednesday April 9, 2014, as he talks about his mission to formulate a plan to help protect and reassure NATO members nearest Russia.

Speaking at the end of a NATO conference in Paris, Breedlove told the AP the Russian armed presence near Ukraine's frontier continues unabated.

To illustrate his point, the general's staff provided the AP with a set of commercial satellite photographs they said showed Russian warplanes, combat helicopters, armor, artillery and a probable airborne or special forces brigade deployed in locations east of the Ukraine-Russian border, including along the coastline of the Sea of Azov.

A defense analyst at the Center for Strategic and International Studies, a Washington-based think tank, reviewed the satellite images and said the forces depicted in them don't appear to be involved in training exercises.

They appear to be "in combat readiness," Anthony Cordesman said.

But he said it's unclear from the images how much of a buildup of Russian forces there has been in the border area.

Death And Funeral Announcement

†Antonia Lizama Masga Tudela

Born: June 21, 1937 *Died: April 04, 2014*

Predeceased By:
Husband: Juan Borja Tudela

Parents:
† Rosa Lizama Masga-Taisacan
† Gabriel Manglona Masga
† Jose Atalig Taisacan

Parents In Law:
† Jesus Sablan Tudela
† Anuncia Borja Tudela

Paternal Grandparents:
† Antonia Manglona Masga
† Vicente Hocog Masga

Paternal In-law Grandparents:
† Francisco Ramirez Tudela
† Ana Sablan Tudela

Maternal Grandparents:
† Juan Palomo Lizama
† Emilia Crisostomo Lizama

Maternal In-law Grandparents:
† Manuel Mendiola Borja
† Ignacia Diaz Borja

Her Memories Will Forever Live in the Hearts of Her:

Children, Sons/Daughters In-law, Grand Children, and Great Grand Children:

Piding T. And Manuel C. Tenorio (Derol Jason M. and Sandra H. Tudela (Jason Peter Iglecias), Jonathan Michael, Jemalyn Michelle, Antonette T. and Lucas Laniyo (Daughter), † Manuel Jr. Q. Tenorio)
Dr. Ignacia (Acha) T. and Antonio S. Demapan (Anthony John T. Demapan and Lani Benavente (Ciana Lei), Brandon T. and Vicky T. Demapan (Ayvah Victoria, Brianna Hope, CJ, Terrance), and Daisylynn T. Demapan)
Rosa (Chai) M. Tudela and Johnny S. Aldan (Billy Joe, Mayleen Rose, Johnny, Richard Joseph, Julie and Ton Atalig (Johnson, Patsy, Cj, Jocelyn, Celina, and Morris), Mason and Jordie Aldan (Pilar, Max, Rekihna, And Mason Jr.)
Cecilia T. and James S. Labausa (John James, Antonette Rose Marie, and Ruby Cornelia)
Jane Frances M. Tudela
Eleanor Antonia T. and Jose C. Tenorio (Viron Joel)
Elizabeth M. Tudela
Dr. John Gabriel Jr. M. Tudela
Jesus (Jesse) Vincent M. And Jocelyn M. Tudela (Annabella Jelyn)

Caregivers:
Gloria Lina and Slyvia Escareces

Brothers And Sisters And In- Laws:
† **Juan L. Masga**
† **Vicenta L. Masga**
† **Gabriel L. Masga**
Antonio L. and Connie N. Taisacan and Children
Emilia T. and Jose S. Rios and Children
Pudentiana T. and Joaquin S. Quitugua and Children
Ricardo L. and Cynthia C. Taisacan and Children
† **Victor L. Taisacan**

Brothers/Sisters In-law:
† **Francisco B.** and † Ana Dlg. Tudela and Children
† **Juliana T.** and † Jose Q. Lizama and Children
† **Magdalena T.** and † Vicente C. Salas and Children
† **Raimunda T.** and † Francisco C. Palacios and Children
† **Rufina T.** and † Vic Queribin and Children
† **Sabina T.** and † John C. Pangelinan and Children
Sr. Cecilia B. Tudela, MMB
† **Rufino B.** and Consolacion F. Tudela and Children

Reared Brother In-law:
Leo B. and Leimomi M. Tudela and Children

Daily Mass is at San Jose Church on the following dates and time:

- Friday, April 04, 2014, 6:00p.m.
- Saturday, April 05, 2014, 6:00p.m.
- Sunday, April 06, 2014, 9:00a.m.
- Monday, April 07, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Tuesday, April 08, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Wednesday, April 09, 2014, 6:00p.m.
- Thursday, April 10, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Friday, April 11, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Sunday, April13, 2014 , 9:00a.m.
- Monday, April 14, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Tuesday, April 15, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Wednesday, April 16, 2014, 6:00p.m.
- Thursday, April 17, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Friday, April 18, 2014, 6:00a.m.
- Saturday, April 19, 2014, 6:00p.m.
- Sunday, April 20, 2104, 9:00a.m.
- Monday, April 21, 2014, 6:00a.m.

The Holy Rosary Is Being Said At The Family's Residence In Garapan At 7:30p.m.

On Saturday, April 12, 2014, her body will be escorted at 7:30a.m. from Borja Funeral Homes to Mount Carmel Cathedral. Responso will be at 7:45a.m. followed by the Holy Rosary and viewing. Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00a.m. Interment service will be at Chalan Kanoa Cemetery.

Your thoughts, prayers and presence are greatly appreciated.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase-Thank You
From Her Children and Family

Putin turns up economic heat before Ukraine talks

MOSCOW (AP)—Russian President Vladimir Putin turned up the heat on Ukraine on Wednesday by threatening to demand advance payment for gas supplies, a move designed to exert economic pressure as Ukraine confronts possible bankruptcy, a mutiny by pro-Russian separatists in the east and a Russian military buildup across the border.

NATO's top commander in Europe warned that the alliance could respond to the Russian military threat against Ukraine by deploying U.S. troops to Eastern Europe, but Putin's latest tactics suggest he may be aiming to secure Russia's clout with its neighbor without invading.

Speaking at a Cabinet session, the Russian leader voiced hope that diplomatic efforts to ease the Ukrainian crisis would yield "positive results," an apparent reference to talks set for next week that will bring together the U.S., the European Union, Russia and Ukraine for the first time.

Russia wants the talks to focus on a roadmap for Ukraine that would include constitutional reforms to turn it into a federation and guarantee its neutral status. Those demands reflect the Kremlin's hope of retaining influence over its neighbor and ensuring it does not join NATO. Ukraine has responded by saying it will not be dictated by Russia.

Taking a tough stance before the negotiations set for next week, Putin instructed the government to be prepared to charge Ukraine in advance for gas supplies - a step that would inflict more pain on a nation already teetering on the verge of bankruptcy. He said the change needed to be taken if "additional consultations" with the European Union fail to yield results.

Blasts in central Syria city of Homs kill 25

DAMASCUS, Syria (AP)—Two car bombs exploded Wednesday in a government-held district of Syria's battleground city of Homs, killing at least 25 people and wounding more than 100, state media said.

The blasts hit a commercial street inhabited mostly by members of President Bashar Assad's minority Alawite sect in the central city, where government forces have been imposing a heavy siege on rebel-controlled districts.

Syria's uprising, which began with largely peaceful protests against Assad's rule in March 2011, has since evolved into a civil war with sectarian overtones, pitting predominantly Sunni Muslim rebels against an Assad government that is dominated by Alawites, an offshoot of Shiite Islam.

Homs, a city of about 1 million, has shown great sympathy for the opposition since the early days of the uprising. The city was once known as "the capital of the Syrian revolution" before government forces captured large parts of once rebel-held neighborhoods such as Baba Amr and Khaldiyeh.

State news agency SANA said one car blew up near a sweets shop in a busy street and about half an hour later another car exploded about 100 meters (yards) away "in order to inflict the biggest numbers of casualties among citizens."

SANA said the wounded included its photographer in Homs, Syria's third-largest city, adding that the blasts went off in the Karm el-Loz neighborhood. It said the explosion that struck a busy street also wounded 107 people.

It said the dead and wounded in the explosions included women and children.

Syrian TV showed several shops and cars on fire. Bloodied people could be seen being carried on stretchers into ambulances.

Off The Wall

South Koreans crave Asia's smelliest fish

By FOSTER KLUG
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MOKPO, South Korea (AP)—The aroma of one of South Korea's most popular delicacies is regularly compared to rotting garbage and filthy bathrooms. And that's by fans.

The unusual dish is typically made by taking dozens of fresh skate, a cartilage-rich fish that looks like a stingray, stacking them up in a walk-in refrigerator and waiting. Up to a month in some cases.

"You know when it's done by the smell," said Kang Han-joo, co-owner of a seafood store in the bustling fish market of Mokpo, a port city on the southwestern tip of the Korean Peninsula, a region that's considered the food's spiritual home. As Kang spoke, he sliced small, stinking, glistening dark-pink fish steaks with a large knife and laid them in plastic foam boxes for shipment to customers around South Korea.

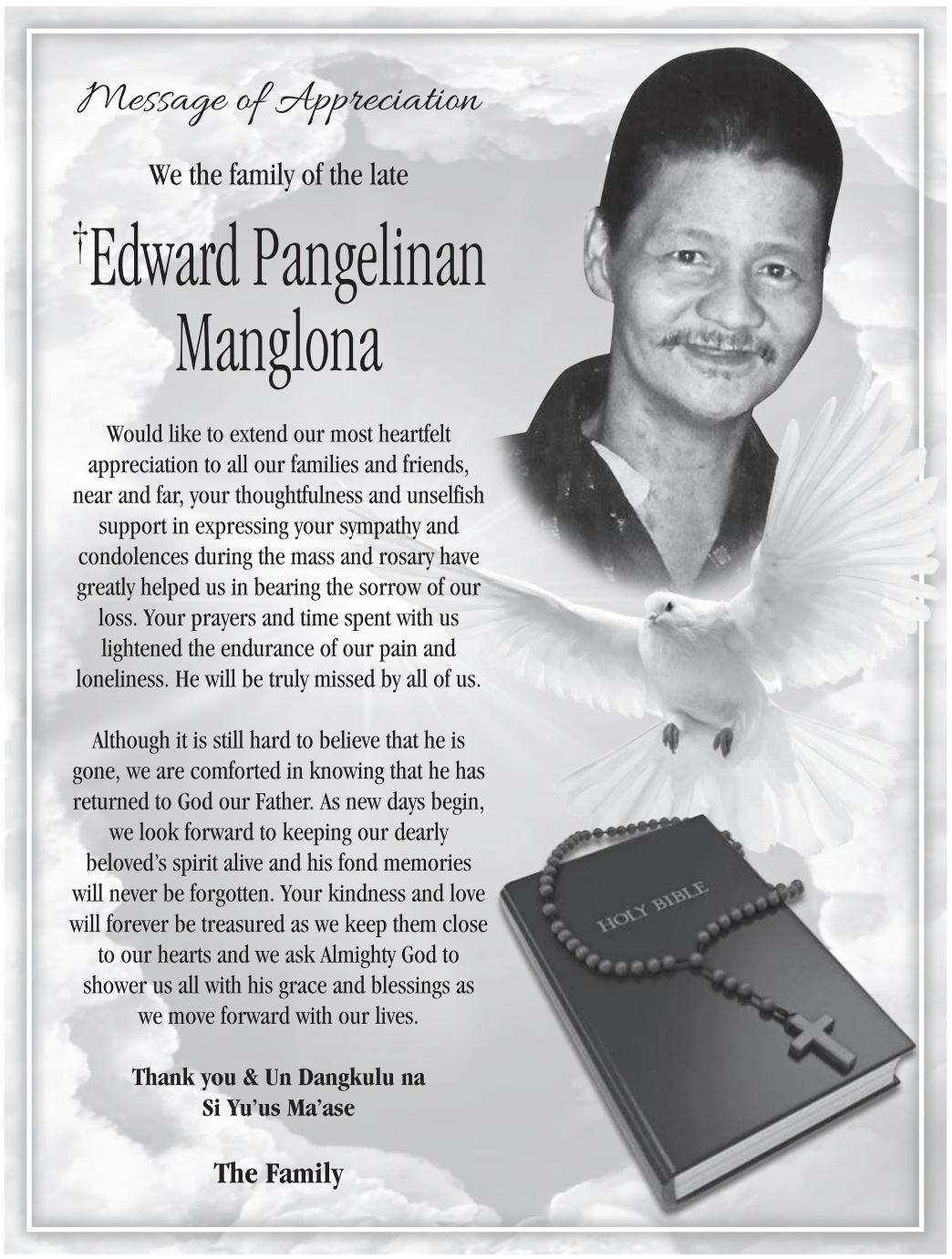
The smell of the fish, called hongeo in Korean and usually eaten uncooked, is unmistakable, unavoidable and a deal-breaker for many. A profound, pungent stink of ammonia radiates from the animal after it's been ripening for weeks. First-timers often squeeze their eyes shut as they chew. Tears stream down the cheeks. The throat constricts with the effort of swallowing.

Kang notes, in a dramatic understatement: "When it's fermented a long time, the smell becomes deeper."

Americans are still getting used to gentler fermented Asian foods—spicy Korean kimchi and Japanese miso, for example—yet many South Koreans claim a love, an addiction even, for this extreme form of fermentation.

AP

In this Feb. 19, 2014 photo, a skate seller puts slices of skate into styrofoam boxes for shipment to customers around South Korea at a fish market in Mokpo, a port city on the southwestern tip of the Korean Peninsula.


Message of Appreciation
We the family of the late
†Edward Pangelinan Manglona
Would like to extend our most heartfelt appreciation to all our families and friends, near and far, your thoughtfulness and unselfish support in expressing your sympathy and condolences during the mass and rosary have greatly helped us in bearing the sorrow of our loss. Your prayers and time spent with us lightened the endurance of our pain and loneliness. He will be truly missed by all of us.
Although it is still hard to believe that he is gone, we are comforted in knowing that he has returned to God our Father. As new days begin, we look forward to keeping our dearly beloved's spirit alive and his fond memories will never be forgotten. Your kindness and love will forever be treasured as we keep them close to our hearts and we ask Almighty God to shower us all with his grace and blessings as we move forward with our lives.
Thank you & Un Dangkulu na
Si Yu'us Ma'ase
The Family
HOLY BIBLE

OFFBEAT BRIEFS

Police: Burglary suspects pocket-dialed 911

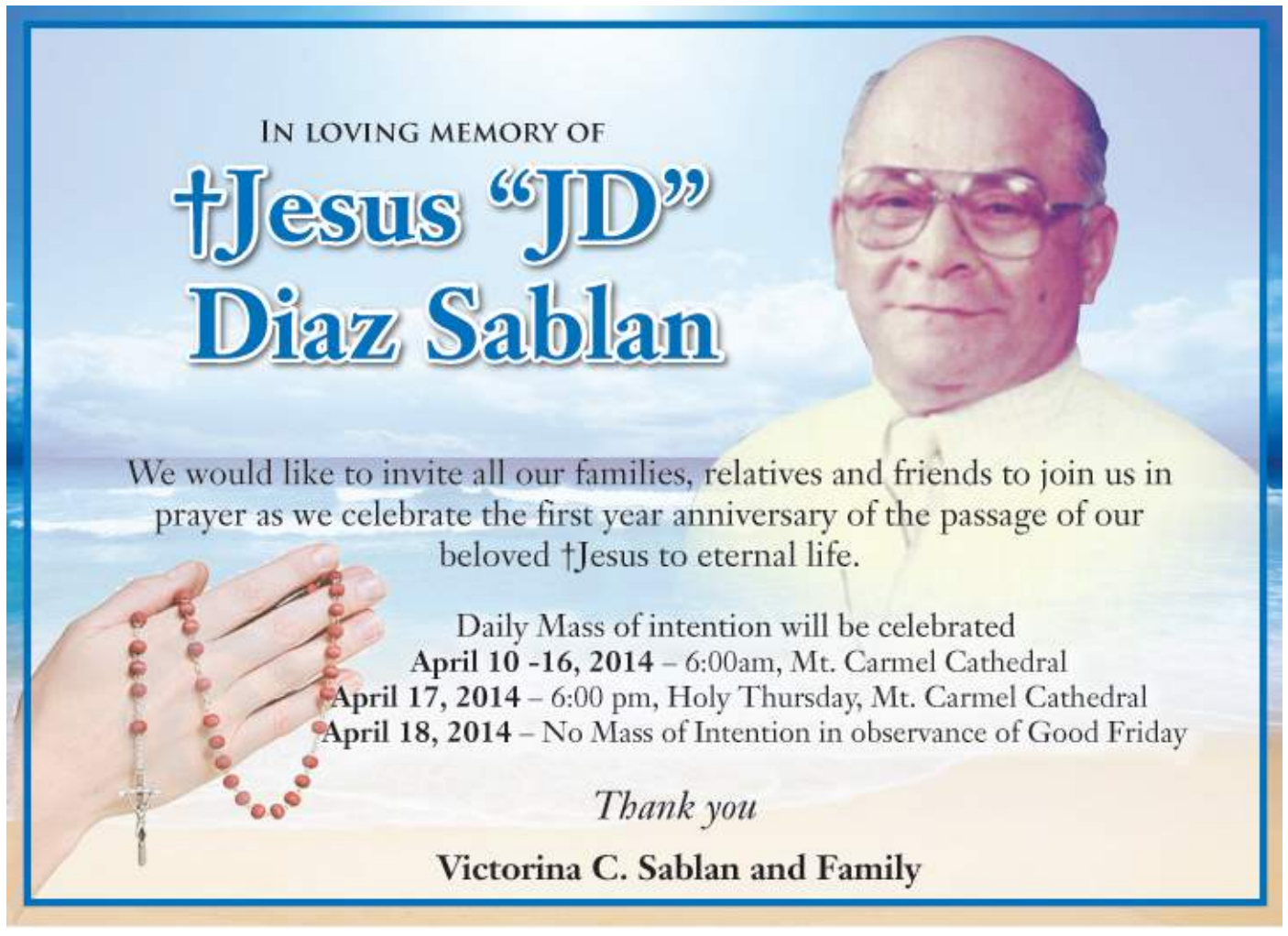
MAPLEWOOD, Minn. (AP)—Two Minnesota burglary suspects are arrested after police say one of them accidentally called 911 and left the line open as the pair discussed the crime. Maplewood Police Chief Paul Schnell says the dispatcher got a call and hang-up, then another call that stayed open. The St. Paul Pioneer Press reports the dispatcher overheard a conversation about where police were. Schnell says the calls were made on April 1 using the phone's emergency-call feature. The dispatcher saw the location was a car-repair shop. Officers arrived to see two men leaving the building wearing dark clothing. One carried a television, the other a box. The men dropped the objects and ran, but were caught by police dogs. Thirty-two-year-old Todd Weiss of Minnetonka and 38-year-old Justin Evans are charged with third-degree burglary.

Ireland's wedding-singer priest an Internet hit

DUBLIN (AP)—Father's got talent. An Irish priest has become a social-media sensation after he surprised a bride and groom by singing a custom-made cover of Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah" at their wedding. Video of the Rev. Ray Kelly's altar-side performance has shot to the top of YouTube in Ireland with more than 240,000 viewings since it was posted Monday following the weekend nuptials of Chris and Leah O'Kane. The parish priest in the town of Oldcastle, northwest of Dublin, started his version with the words: "We join together here today, to help two people on their way, as Leah and Chris start their life together." Kelly wins laughter midway as he raises his eyebrows at the stunned couple, and offers a playful wink at the end.

Computer support call leads to burglary arrest

DOVER, N.H. (AP)—Mike Witonis got an email from Apple thanking him for calling customer service about his laptop computer. Problem is, someone had stolen it from him a year earlier. Police eventually arrested 24-year-old Casey Wentworth of Portsmouth on Monday and charged him with burglary. He's accused of taking the laptop from Witonis' home in Dover in February 2013. When the break-in happened, police said they couldn't identify any suspects. Detectives contacted Apple and the laptop's serial number was flagged. When Witonis got the email, he contacted police, who said the person who called customer service used the serial number of the stolen computer. Witonis tells WMUR-TV the discovery was sort of shocking.


IN LOVING MEMORY OF
†Jesus "JD" Diaz Sablan
We would like to invite all our families, relatives and friends to join us in prayer as we celebrate the first year anniversary of the passage of our beloved †Jesus to eternal life.
Daily Mass of intention will be celebrated
April 10 -16, 2014 – 6:00am, Mt. Carmel Cathedral
April 17, 2014 – 6:00 pm, Holy Thursday, Mt. Carmel Cathedral
April 18, 2014 – No Mass of Intention in observance of Good Friday
Thank you
Victorina C. Sablan and Family

Science & Technology

Heartbleed virus causes major security headache

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)—A confounding computer bug called "Heartbleed" is causing major security headaches across the Internet as websites scramble to fix the problem and Web surfers wonder whether they should change their passwords to prevent theft of their email accounts, credit card numbers and other sensitive information.

The breakdown revealed this week affects a widely used encryption technology that is supposed to protect online accounts for a variety of online communications and electronic commerce.

Security researchers who uncovered the threat are particularly worried about the lapse because it went undetected for more than two years. They fear the possibility that computer hackers may have been secretly exploiting the problem before its discovery. It's also possible that no one took advantage of the flaw before its existence was announced late Monday.

Although there is now a way to close the security hole, there are still plenty of reasons to be concerned, said David Chartier, CEO of Codenomicon. A small team from the Finnish security firm diagnosed Heartbleed while working independently from another Google Inc. researcher who also discovered the threat.

"I don't think anyone that had been using this technology is in a position to definitively say they weren't compromised," Chartier said.

Canada's tax agency isn't taking any chances. Citing the security risks posed by Heartbleed, the Canada Revenue Agency shut off public access to its website "to safeguard the integrity of the information we hold," according to a notice posted on its website Wednesday. The agency said it hopes to re-open its website this weekend. The lockdown comes just three weeks from Canada's April 30 deadline for filing 2013 tax returns.

The U.S. Internal Revenue Service said in a statement Wednesday that it's not affected by the security hole. "The IRS advises taxpayers to continue filing their tax returns as they normally would in advance of the April 15 deadline," the agency said.

What you need to know about the Heartbleed bug

By BREE FOWLER
AP TECHNOLOGY WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Millions of passwords, credit card numbers and other personal information may be at risk as a result of a major breakdown in Internet security revealed earlier this week.

The damage caused by the "Heartbleed" bug is currently unknown. The security hole exists on a vast number of the Internet's Web servers and went undetected for more than two years. While it's conceivable that the flaw was never discovered by hackers, it's nearly impossible to tell.

There isn't much that people can do to protect themselves until the affected websites implement a fix.

Here are answers to some common questions about Heartbleed and how you can protect yourself:

Q: What is Heartbleed and why is it a big deal?

A: Heartbleed affects the encryption technology designed to protect online accounts for email, instant messaging and e-commerce. It was discovered by a team of researchers from the Finnish security firm Codenomicon, along with a Google Inc. researcher who was working separately.

It's unclear whether any information has been stolen as a result of Heartbleed, but security experts are particularly worried about the bug because it went undetected for more than two years.

Q: How does it work?

A: Heartbleed creates an opening in SSL/TLS, an encryption technology marked by the small, closed padlock and "https:" on Web browsers to show that traffic is secure. The flaw makes it possible to snoop on Internet traffic even if the padlock is closed. Interlopers can also grab the keys for deciphering encrypted data without the website owners knowing the theft occurred.

The problem affects only the variant of SSL/TLS known as OpenSSL, but that happens to be one of the most common on the Internet.

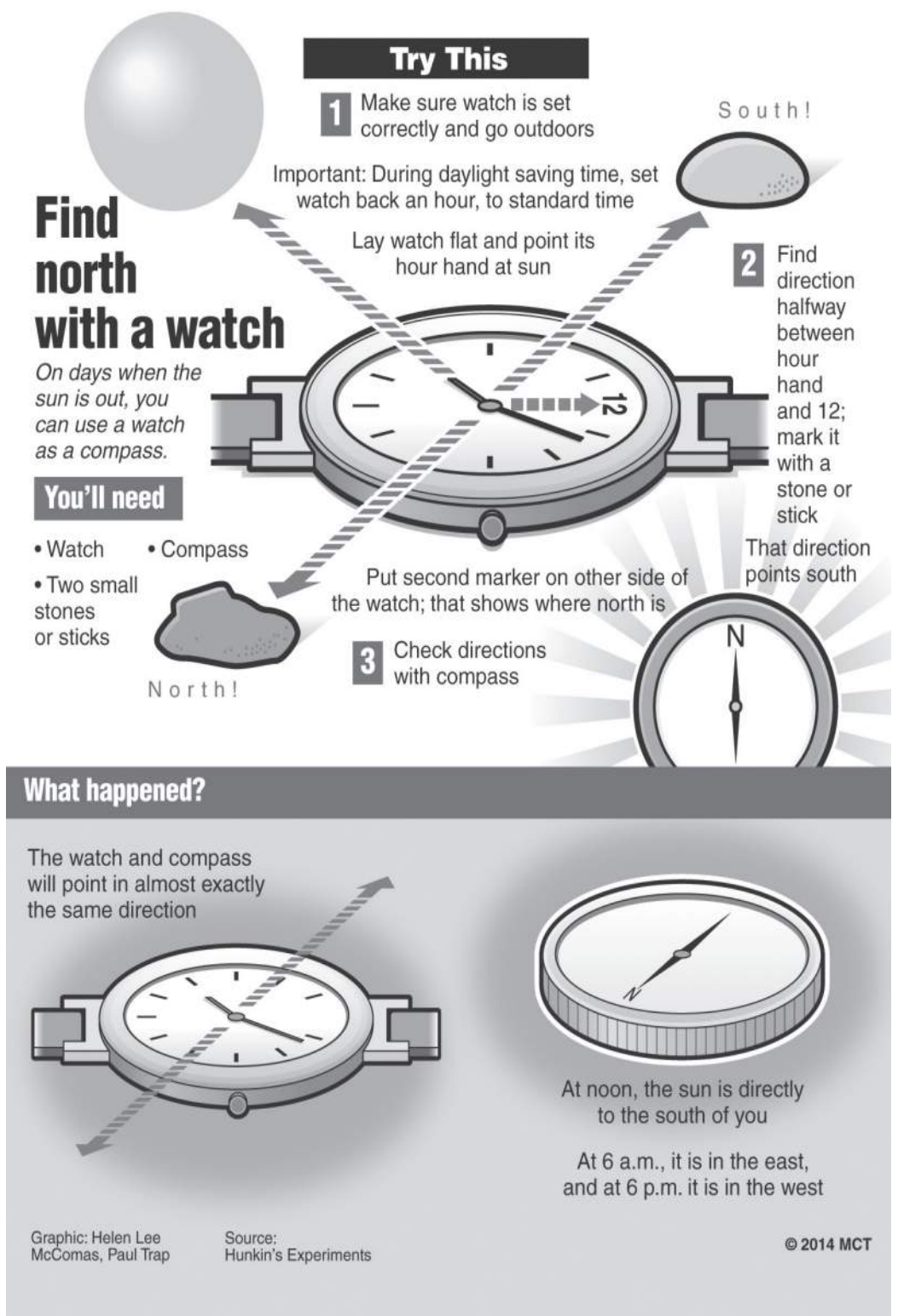
Q: So if the problem has been identified, it's been fixed and I have nothing to worry about. Right?

A: It depends on the website. A fixed version of OpenSSL has been released, but it's up to the individual website administrators to put it into place.

Yahoo Inc., which has more than 800 million users around the world, said Tuesday that most of its popular services— including sports, finance and Tumblr— had been fixed, but work was still being done on other products that it didn't identify.

Q: So what can I do to protect myself?

A: Ultimately, you'll need to change your passwords, but that won't do any good until the sites you use adopt the fix. It's also up to the Internet services affected by the bug to let users know of the potential risks and encourage them to change their passwords.


Try This
1 Make sure watch is set correctly and go outdoors
Important: During daylight saving time, set watch back an hour, to standard time
Lay watch flat and point its hour hand at sun
2 Find direction halfway between hour hand and 12; mark it with a stone or stick
That direction points south
Put second marker on other side of the watch; that shows where north is
3 Check directions with compass
South!
North!
Find north with a watch
On days when the sun is out, you can use a watch as a compass.
You'll need
• Watch • Compass
• Two small stones or sticks
What happened?
The watch and compass will point in almost exactly the same direction
At noon, the sun is directly to the south of you
At 6 a.m., it is in the east, and at 6 p.m. it is in the west
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Paul Trap
Source: Hunkin's Experiments
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TRANSCENDENCE [CC,DV] (PG-13) Thu.800 PM
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OCULUS [CC] (R) Fri.(430 PM) 725 PM 955 PM Sat.(130 430) 725 955 Sun. - Thu.(130 PM 430 PM) 725 PM
RIO 2 [CC,DV] (G) Fri.(445 PM) Sat. - Thu.(200 PM 445 PM)
RIO 2 3D [CC,DV] (G) Fri.(415 PM) 645 PM 915 PM Sat.(115 415) 645 915 Sun. - Thu.(115 PM 415 PM) 645 PM
CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE WINTER SOLDIER [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.(400 PM) 700 PM 1010 PM Sat.(100 400) 700 1010 Sun. - Thu.(100 PM 400 PM) 700 PM
CAPTAIN AMERICA: THE WINTER SOLDIER 3D [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri. - Sat.715 PM 1015 PM Sun. - Thu.715 PM
SABOTAGE [CC,DV] (R) Fri. - Sat.1000 PM Sun. - Thu.730 PM
NOAH [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.(410 PM) 710 PM 1020 PM Sat.(110 410) 710 1020 Sun. - Wed.(110 PM 410 PM) 710 PM Thu.(110 PM 410 PM)
DIVERGENT [CC,DV] (PG-13) Fri.(405 PM) 705 PM 1005 PM Sat.(105 405) 705 1005 Sun. - Wed.(105 PM 405 PM) 705 PM Thu.(105 PM 405 PM)
MR. PEABODY AND SHERMAN [CC,DV] (PG) Fri.(420 PM) Sat. - Thu.(145 PM 420 PM)
Times For 04/11 - 04/17 www.REGmovies.com

TECH Q&A

Free firewall plagued by risky hangers-on

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

QUESTION: I downloaded the ZoneAlarm free firewall for my Windows 7 laptop. But every time I run my SpyHunter security program, it comes up with all kinds of nasty things from ZoneAlarm under the heading of browser hijacking and information tracking. Is ZoneAlarm's free firewall safe to use?—Mary Martin, Eau Claire, Wis.

ANSWER: The firewall is safe, but its accessories may not be.

I'm sorry to say that, because I've recommended ZoneAlarm's free firewall for years as an effective, no-nonsense product. Unfortunately, that seems to have changed. When you download the ZoneAlarm firewall, you now also get accessory software that is unnecessary, invasive and could be risky. Your SpyHunter program has correctly identified those add-ons as a potential threat.

Why is ZoneAlarm doing this? To make money, while still calling the firewall "free." ZoneAlarm's download page says that you must accept these add-ons because, "This provides advertising revenue that allows us to develop top-rated free security products for you."

As a result, you can download the ZoneAlarm firewall today only if you agree to let ZoneAlarm become your browser's home page and if you let the accessory software set "ZoneAlarm Search" as your browser's default search provider.

The search requirement is potentially dangerous, because you don't know what kind of information this search engine might offer you. Since its purpose is to make money for ZoneAlarm, will its search results be based on paid listings? Will the Web pages it suggests be safe for you to visit?

Fortunately, this additional software can be eliminated, leaving only the useful ZoneAlarm firewall. For directions, see http://tinyurl.com/pke92xm.

Or you could just uninstall all the ZoneAlarm software and use another free firewall, such as Comodo, TinyWall or Ashampoo.

Q: I have a zillion slides and prints, and I want to use my Epson Perfection V700 flatbed scanner to store them as digital images for my children and grandchildren. What is the easiest software program I can use to capture the photos and include captions?—Harry Harrington, Baton Rouge, La.

A: The software that came with your scanner should work well. If you don't have that software, download "Scanner Driver and Epson Scan Utility" for your printer at http://tinyurl.com/mhnpcoy. You can read about techniques for scanning at http://tinyurl.com/k4rb2k8.

If you need to edit the photos or add captions, you can use software that comes with the scanner, Adobe Photoshop Elements. Or you can find a list of free photo editing programs at About.com, at http://tinyurl.com/2gltnv.

Steve Alexander covers technology for the Minneapolis Star Tribune. *Readers may write to him at Tech Q&A, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488-0002; email: steve.j.alexander@gmail.com. Please include a full name, city and phone number.*

Former pro wrestler Ultimate Warrior dies at 54

By DAN GELSTON
AP SPORTS WRITER

The Ultimate Warrior put on his signature airbrushed trench coat, shook the white ring ropes, and, for a few fleeting minutes, the wrestler billed as hailing from Parts Unknown was back home in the wrestling ring.

"Speak to me, Warriors!" he bellowed on Monday night's "Raw", back on TV after an 18-year absence.

He soaked up the applause from a New Orleans crowd chanting his name and pulled out a neon mask that replicated the face paint he wore in the ring for every main event battle with Hulk Hogan and Randy "Macho Man" Savage in the 1990s. Warrior cut a promo to show how much he appreciated his return to the WWE.

Less than 24 hours later, Warrior, one of the most colorful stars in pro wrestling history, was dead. He was 54.

"We are all grateful to have had the opportunity to get the closure with him, to work to get him back on that platform," said Paul "Triple H" Levesque, a wrestler and top WWE executive. "Knowing him now, there could have been no better send-off, really, for him, than that. It was everything he would have dreamed off."

After ending his estrangement with the company, Warrior was in the spotlight again earlier this week, making appearances at WrestleMania 30 and on "Monday Night Raw," and he was inducted into the WWE Hall of fame.

Hellwig

His last promo on WWE's flagship show seems almost eerie now with his triumphant return overshadowed by his sudden death.

"No WWE talent becomes a legend on their own," Warrior said. "Every man's heart one day beats its final beat. His lungs breathe their final breath. And if what that man did in his life makes the blood pulse through the body of others, it makes them bleed deeper and something larger than life, then his essence, his spirit, will be immortalized."

The Ultimate Warrior personified the larger-than-life cartoon characters who helped skyrocket the WWE into a mainstream phenomenon in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Warrior dressed in face paint, had tassels dangling from his super-sized biceps and sprinted to the ring when his theme music hit. He'd shake the ropes, grunt and howl, and thump his chest while the crowd went wild for the popular good guy.

In an era when the WWE targeted kids as its primary audience, Warrior was a perfect fit with a spastic entrance, blood-pumping music, flowing locks and always dressed in electric colors from head to boots.

His rambling, incoherent promos both energized and confused fans, and Warrior would often stare down at his hands as he spoke, as if he was summoning magical powers out of his fingertips.

He made his debut with the promotion when it was known as the World Wrestling Federation in 1987 and wrestled on and off for the sports entertainment empire until 1996.

The Ultimate Warrior became the first wrestler to defeat Hogan in a WrestleMania match in 1990 when he used his finishing running splash for the pin. He won the championship in front of 67,678 fans at Toronto's SkyDome in a match billed as "The Ultimate Challenge."

Lorde, Imagine Dragons lead Billboard nominations

NEW YORK (AP)—Newcomers Lorde and Imagine Dragons are the top contenders at next month's Billboard Music Awards.

The breakthrough acts are finalists in 12 categories, thanks to Lorde's Grammy-winning multiplatinum hit "Royals" and Imagine Dragons' "Radioactive," also a multiplatinum Grammy winner. Those smashes are nominated for top Hot 100 song against Robin Thicke's "Blurred Lines," Katy Perry's "Roar" and Miley Cyrus' "Wrecking Ball."

Imagine Dragons is also up for top artist and will battle Cyrus, Perry, Bruno Mars and Justin Timberlake, who is nominated for 11 awards.

Timberlake's "The 20/20 Experience," last year's best-selling album, will compete against efforts from Beyonce, Eminem, Drake and Luke Bryan for top Billboard 200 album.

The 2014 Billboard Music Awards will air live on ABC from the MGM Grand Garden Arena in Las Vegas on May 18.

AP
New Zealand's singer-songwriter Lorde answers questions from the press ahead of her performance in Mexico City, Mexico, Wednesday, April 9, 2014.

Rolling Stone flubs Constitution tattoo on cover

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Julia Louis-Dreyfus better hope her latest tattoo is a temporary one.

The cover image of next month's Rolling Stone magazine featuring the "Veep" star depicts a nude Louis-Dreyfus with a tattoo of the U.S. Constitution signed by John Hancock across her back. The problem is Hancock signed the Declaration of Independence, not the Constitution.

Louis-Dreyfus jokingly blamed the blunder on Mike McClintock, the fictional "Veep" character played by Matt Walsh who serves as communications director to Louis-Dreyfus' Vice President Selina Meyer on the HBO comedy series.

"Yet another Mike (expletive)," the 53-year-old actress posted Wednesday on Twitter. "Dummy."

The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia mocked the flub by tweeting a photo of the cover alongside such Founding Fathers as George Washington and Benjamin Franklin in Signers' Hall with the words, "Thanks for the shoutout but no Hancock here."

Rolling Stone spokeswoman Melissa Bruno said the Declaration of the Independence is on the other side of Louis-Dreyfus' body, but they couldn't fit in the signatures.

AP
This undated photo released by Rolling Stone shows the cover of the April 24, 2014 issue of Rolling Stone magazine featuring actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus, photographed by Mark Seliger for Rolling Stone.

Inside the magazine, another image shot by photographer Mark Seliger shows a man in a colonial wig tattooing Hancock's signature above the bare bottom of the Seinfeld actress,

"I'm a perfectionist in my work," Louis-Dreyfus notes in the magazine's cover story. "I think I might drive people nuts. I don't ask them, because I don't need that (expletive) on top of how I'm feeling."

Korean-American poet receives Walt Whitman Award

NEW YORK (AP)—A young Korean-American poet has received a $5,000 award for first-time writers that also ensures the publication and thousands of sales of her debut collection.

Hannah Sanghee Park has won the Walt Whitman Award, the Academy of American Poets announced Wednesday. Her book, "The Same-Different," will be released next year by Louisiana State University. The poetry academy will purchase thousands of copies and distribute them to its members. Pulitzer Prize winner Rae Armantrout chose Park for the award and praised "Same-Different" as a "literally dazzling debut."

The 27-year-old Park was born in Tacoma, Wash., and now lives in Los Angeles, where she is a student at the Writing for Screen & Television Division of the USC School of Cinematic Arts. She is a graduate of the University of Iowa's Writers Workshop.

State of modern marriage mirrors disposable society

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My wife and I were discussing our sons-in-law, and young men in their 20s and 30s in general. We were wondering where the attitude of "any money I earn is mine" in a marriage or live-in situation got started.

For the first few years of my daughter and her husband "Joe's" marriage, Joe resented giving her any of the money he earned. My other daughter's husband thinks nothing of spending money on himself and his friends without consulting her.

We have seen this attitude reflected in their friends as well. They don't seem to discuss with each other how each is spending their "joint" income. There seems to be an element of selfishness, too.

My wife and I have been married 40 years and from the beginning I have always considered what each of us earned was OURS, not mine or hers (when she worked). We always discuss any significant purchases, and I have always believed it was my responsibility to support my family. I realize the current economic situation has made that difficult, but the attitude should still be there.

WONDERING IN WASHINGTON

DEAR WONDERING: You have raised an interesting subject. There is a difference between living together and being married because of our legal system. Because people who co-habit without benefit of marriage are considered individuals in the eyes of the law, it is probably prudent to keep their financial affairs separate. However, each person should contribute to the expenses they share.

In a marriage, the situation is different: The law assumes that the man and wife are one unit. This is the mindset you adopted when you and your wife were married.

There is a tendency among young couples, not only because of the high divorce rate, but also what they have been exposed to in the media from the time they were born, to view marriage as something that might not last. There is also a sense of entitlement among many—NOT ALL—that makes them centered on themselves. We have become a society in which disposability has spread from material possessions to relationships.

I would LOVE to hear what my readers'—particularly my younger readers'—views are regarding this. Click on the link "Write to Dear Abby" at www.DearAbby.com or write to P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

■■■

DEAR ABBY: We are fortunate to have great friends and relatives who invite us to their homes for parties, celebrations, overnight stays, etc. often. The problem is, their houses are cluttered and dirty. We see spilled food in the refrigerator, showers caked with grime and years of stains on upholstery.

Money and time are not issues for these folks. If this was a hotel or restaurant, we would leave immediately. My husband and I have been unnerved by the conditions in these houses. We would like to spend time with these people and don't wish to offend. Subtle hints don't help. We try our best to enjoy their company and ignore the rest, but it can be difficult. What can we do, Abby?

NEAT IN NEW YORK

DEAR NEAT: When you go to visit, stay in a nearby hotel or motel. If you know food will be served, fortify yourself beforehand and eat as little as possible without being rude. If you're afraid you might soil your clothing sitting on their furniture, leave anything that isn't washable at home.

■■■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

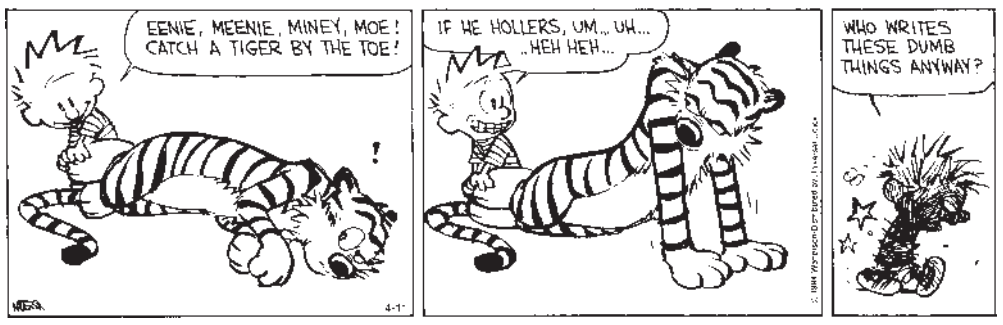
■■■

Good advice for everyone—teens to seniors—is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



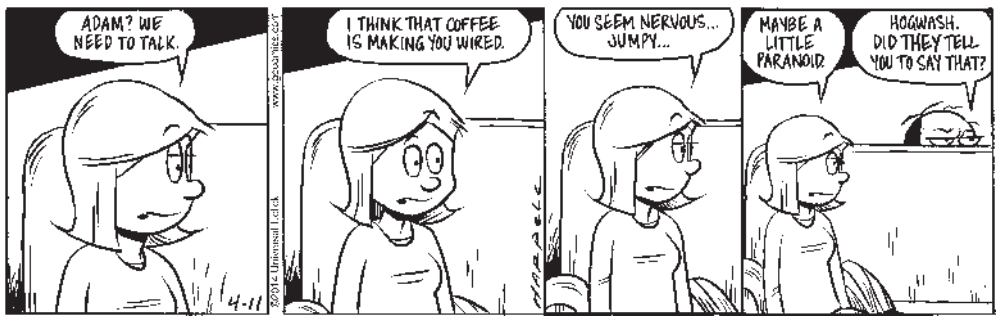
Garfield®

By Jim Davis

WALKING IN THE RAIN IS SO ROMANTIC
RUNNING THROUGH THE SPRINKLERS IS FUN, TOO
THAT'S NOT AS ROMANTIC
YEAH, BUT THERE'S LESS CHANCE OF A LIGHTNING STRIKE
SCORE ONE FOR THE PARANOID
JIM DAVIS 4-11

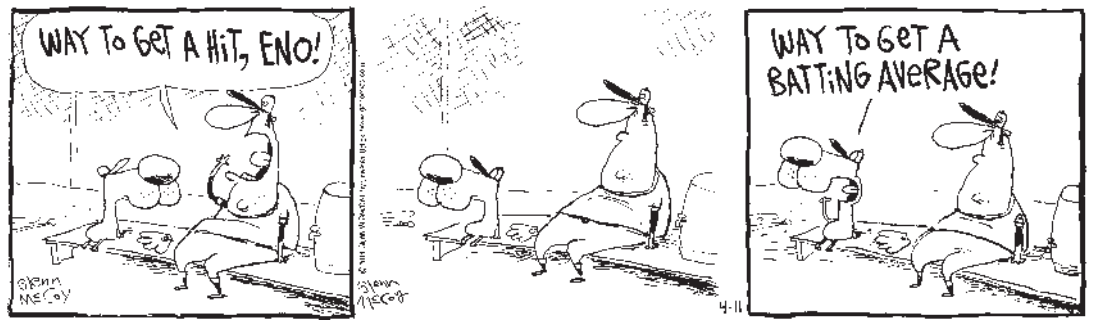
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


ADAM? WE NEED TO TALK.
I THINK THAT COFFEE IS MAKING YOU WIRED.
YOU SEEM NERVOUS... JUMPY...
MAYBE A LITTLE PARANOID
HOGWASH. DID THEY TELL YOU TO SAY THAT?
4-11

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

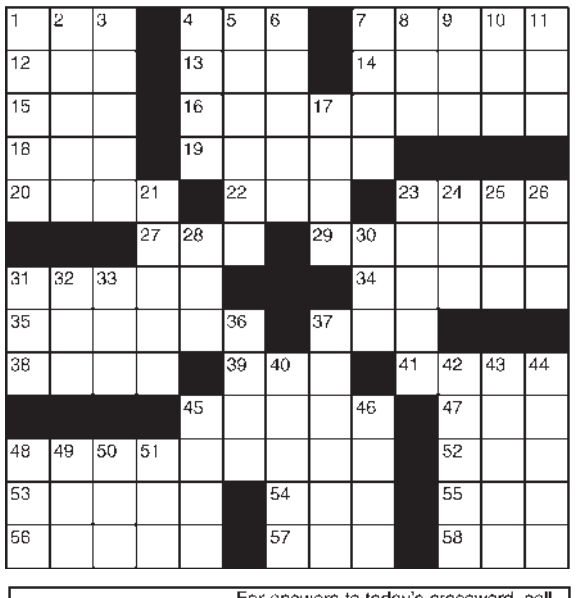
ACROSS
1 Cistern
4 Cambridge sch.
7 Having a BAC of zero
12 "— Blue?"
13 Expert
14 Jack
15 Lemon
16 Brought up
18 Work with
19 Concerning
20 Londoner's letters
22 Bobby of hockey
23 Cruise vessel
27 Opposite of bellum
29 Incite
31 Visitor from Venus?
34 Classroom array
35 Mourn
37 Solidify
38 "Zounds!"
39 Honest politician?
41 Woman
45 Leaves at the altar
47 Fib
48 Kreskin, for one
52 Eggs
53 Hunter in the sky
54 Pigs' digs
55 Yon maiden
56 "Inferno" author
57 Fenway squad, familiarly
58 Pompous one

DOWN
1 Capital of Liechtenstein
2 Entertain
3 — over (helped temporarily)
4 First word, perhaps
5 Old-style fridge
6 Saxophone range
7 Revue segment
8 Yoko of music
9 Prohibit
10 Enos' granny
11 Roulette bet
17 Sod
21 Race
23 Bloodhound's clue
24 Cock and bull?
25 Squid squirt
26 Score units (Abbr.)
28 Raggedy one
30 Rhyming tribute
31 Hearty quaff
32 Trail the pack
33 "— Little Teapot"
36 Cow's fly swatter?
37 Reaches
40 Ecstasy
42 Wahine's welcome
43 Seedy bars
44 Quite some time
45 Tarzan's mate
46 Charon's river
48 Chic, in the 1960s
49 Historic time
50 Diarist Anaïs
51 Youngster

Solution time: 25 mins.

J	A	B	■	F	I	N	E	■	B	O	L	A
E	G	O	■	E	N	O	S	■	E	L	A	M
B	O	O	K	E	N	U	S	■	C	A	H	O
■	■	K	I	D	■	S	A	M	O	V	A	R
P	A	W	N	E	D	■	Y	A	M	■	■	■
A	D	O	■	R	A	P	■	D	E	B	R	A
P	A	R	T	■	M	O	P	■	S	O	A	P
A	R	M	E	D	■	P	A	L	■	O	R	E
■	■	■	D	A	D	■	W	A	L	K	E	D
D	E	M	I	G	O	D	■	C	A	M	■	■
O	R	E	O	■	B	O	O	K	C	A	S	E
L	I	E	U	■	I	D	L	E	■	R	U	N
L	E	T	S	■	E	D	D	Y	■	K	E	G

Yesterday's answer 4-11



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Joss Stone, 27; Tricia Helfer, 40; Jennifer Esposito, 41; Joel Grey, 82

Happy Birthday: Your desire to get a response will motivate you to take action. Look, see and do will be the mantra that enables you to turn this year into one of great change in all walks of life. Stepping into the fire instead of running away from it may be painful, but in the end, the results will lead to victory. Your numbers are 5, 17, 25, 27, 39, 41, 47.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): A practical approach at work will help you avoid criticism. You may feel pressured by someone trying to push you in a direction you don't want to go. Anger will not help your situation, but doing a good job will. ✪✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): Take a break, go shopping or get together with someone you find interesting. Sharing your ideas and intentions with someone special will lead to plans for the future. A day trip will help you make a decision that will change your lifestyle. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Emotions will flare up, causing a misunderstanding. Don't leave anything to chance. You are best to make your position clear and to make your move swiftly. Someone will do you a favor that will help you get out of a sticky situation. ✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Refuse to let anyone sidetrack you. Focus on your problems, not on what others want you to do. Once you firm up your plans, you will have more time to help others. Your interest in someone or something unusual will help stabilize your life. ✪✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Choose something out of the ordinary and you will learn from the experience you encounter. The people you meet and the challenges you face will stimulate you, as well as push you to make positive personal changes. ✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You may want to help others, but don't offer money or sign agreements that will have lasting repercussions. Uncertainty is the enemy and knowledge is your friend. Find out the facts before you take a leap of faith. ✪✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Accept a challenge and push to get your way. A partnership will lead to an exciting prospect. Offer something unique and you will raise your income and your standard of living. Let the past go and the future entice you. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Your home is your castle. Build the environment that will make you feel comfortable and able to follow through with your dreams, hopes and wishes. Love is on the rise, and building a close relationship will lead to greater happiness. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Don't share personal information. Rumors and gossip will make you look bad. Make positive changes at home that will rid you of any bad feelings or poor reputation. It's important to maintain your integrity if you want to get ahead. ✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Consider your options, but don't jump into something unless you are confident that the outcome will favor you. There is too much at stake and it's apparent someone is trying to broadside you. There is no room for error. ✪✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Your ideas are sound and your plans exciting. Step up and make your announcement and you will get the backing you need. Have confidence in your ability to change your direction and capture your dreams. A celebration is in order. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Make special plans. Use your imagination and find an obscure destination or spot where you can enjoy the company of someone you love. Catching someone off guard will help you see the motives behind what's being offered in return. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are articulate and resourceful. You are insightful and proactive.

*Eugenia's website—**eugenialast.com**, Eugenia's android app @ **http://bit.ly/exhoro** and join Eugenia on **twitter/facebook/linkedin**.*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6				3				8
		4						
			1		9		5	
		1		7		9		
9								4
		5		2		1		
	6		7		5			
						4		
3				8				7

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 4/11

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

9	1	3	6	8	7	4	2	5
6	8	2	5	1	4	3	7	9
7	4	5	9	2	3	1	6	8
3	9	7	8	5	1	2	4	6
4	6	8	7	9	2	5	3	1
5	2	1	3	4	6	9	8	7
1	7	6	4	3	9	8	5	2
2	5	4	1	7	8	6	9	3
8	3	9	2	6	5	7	1	4

Difficulty Level ★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

EYELASH EXTENSIONS **Solution: 4 letters**

T	H	S	P	R	O	F	E	S	S	I	O	N	A	L
U	F	Y	T	E	N	N	A	L	P	U	E	K	A	M
O	A	O	P	S	M	I	E	K	R	O	W	I	D	P
L	U	H	S	O	I	E	A	M	E	L	R	N	E	N
L	X	A	T	T	A	T	R	R	I	E	E	R	S	A
A	K	I	T	G	N	L	R	T	T	T	M	E	I	I
F	C	R	Y	S	N	E	L	A	X	A	O	P	G	C
O	A	N	R	S	O	E	M	E	N	E	D	L	N	I
A	L	S	A	E	T	C	L	E	R	E	E	A	S	T
R	B	L	R	N	G	Y	N	O	C	G	L	C	A	E
A	M	L	O	L	Ⓔ	T	L	I	O	N	E	E	D	M
C	I	I	P	L	Ⓨ	C	R	I	H	K	A	N	D	S
S	N	F	M	U	Ⓔ	P	A	H	S	S	I	H	I	O
A	K	E	E	F	Ⓢ	L	A	R	U	T	A	N	N	C
M	I	R	T	H	I	C	K	N	E	S	S	L	G	E

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Adding, Artists, Black, Care, Cosmetician, Cost, Designs, Enhancements, Extend, Extreme, Eyes, Fake, Fallout, Faux, Fullness, Hair, Hypoallergenic, Lash, Length, Looking, Makeup, Mascara, Material, Mink, Model, Natural, Permanent, Plan, Price, Professional, Refills, Replace, Shape, Soft, Stylists, Temporary, Thickness, Time, Train, Trim, Work

Yesterday's Answer: Caddyshack

The **WONDERWORD MILLENNIUM SERIES #2** is here! Purchase online at wonderword.universaluclick.com or call 1-800-642-6480. (Contains 100 puzzles.)

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- Must pass NCLEX-RN and current CNMI RN License
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Interested applicants must submit resume or pick up an application at St. Jude Renal Care Facility Inc., at Chalan Kiya, Saipan. Deadline to submit application will be on 04/25/2014 at 4:00 pm. For more information, please call Judy Arriola at (670) 234-2903 ext. 124.

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 5-day run in both print and online editions, for as low as $30 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT & ONLINE)
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Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT # 01-2014

Opening date: March 31, 2014 **Closing date: April 25, 2014**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) announces the following job vacancy:

Position:
(1) Tinian Ports Manager (Tinian)
(3) ARFF Trainee (Saipan)
(1) Vessel Traffic Controller-I (Port of Saipan)
(1) Tariff Technician-I (Port of Saipan)

Employment Application must be accompanied with a copy of all required diploma/certificates and/or official transcripts, original copy of recent police record not more than six (6) months old, original copy of U.S. Department of Defense Form DD214 for retired members or veterans of our Armed Forces, and other documents as required for the position. Public Law 11-70 requires that all male applicants age 18 to 25 years old must submit documentation evidencing his registration with the Federal Selective Service System. All applications and required documents must be submitted to the CPA Administration Office, 2nd Floor Arrival Building, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Failure to provide any of the required documents may result in automatic disqualification. Certain vacancies may require written and/or physical test. Selected applicants will be subjected to pre-employment drug screening. CPA reserves the right to waive or implement other qualifications to meet its needs. The deadline for submission of applications and required documents is no later than ***4:30 p.m., Friday, April 25, 2014.***

Detailed information on qualifications and position description for the above positions shall be picked up along with the application form during regular working hours at the CPA's Administration Office (2nd Floor) of the Saipan International Airport, Arrival Wing. For more information, please contact the CPA HR Administrator Ms. Rita Omar, by email at rita.omar@cpa.gov.mp or by phone at (670) 237-6500.

CPA is an Equal Opportunity Employer and CPA hires those who are legally entitled to employment in the CNMI.

/s/ MaryAnn Q. Lizama
Executive Director

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3 – SALE ASSOCIATES – Applicant must have work experience in retail sales, cash handling and using Point Of Sale system. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must have excellent customer service skills. Bi-lingual Chinese, Korean, Japanese and Russian is preferred. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays.

1 – GRAPHIC DESIGNER – Applicant must have 4 years of work experience. Must have excellent communication skills (oral and written). Must have creativity and visual advertising skills to perform wide variety of promotions and store signage. Must be hardworking, resourceful and has a keen eye for details. Knowledgeable of printing procedures, website designing and maintenance, point of sales display concept. Must be proficient in Adobe Illustrator, Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Dreamweaver, Adobe Acrobat, Corel Draw & other graphic designing software. Must be able to work flexible hours, weekends and holidays.

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In order to apply for a job at Star Sands Plaza, Please visit our website http://www.starsandsplaza.com
And follow the instruction. If you do not have access to computer/Internet, Employment Applications are available at Star Sands Plaza office.

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Job Vacancy No.: 14-018 **Opening Date: April 11, 2014** **Closing Date: April 24, 2014**

TRADES ASSISTANT

DUTIES: Under the overall supervision of the Chief Engineer or his/her assigned designee, the incumbent's duties and responsibilities are as follows: The incumbent will assist in performing leak detection in the assigned areas. Assist in journey level operations and leak detection in service areas assigned. Assist in leak detection work and determine if any waterline repairs are needed. Prepare the job site for work including gathering and setting up materials and equipment. Clean up, gather and put away equipment, materials and supplies for activities/ projects. Check vehicles for maintenance needs. Inventory materials and supplies. Assists in performing investigations. Provide information for weekly or monthly reports. Perform other duties of a similar nature or level.

LOCATION: WATER & WASTEWATER DIVISIONS, **SAIPAN**

SALARY: $12,263.00 - $15,139.00 per annum

POSITION: Three (3)

CONTRACT: Not Contracted.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: High School Diploma, G.E.D. or A.B.E. Knowledge of: Basic leak detection principles and procedures of service area assigned; Basic mathematics. Skill in: Performing Leak Detection with leak detection equipment and software; Performing site inspections and recognizing problem areas; Basic skills in using computers and related software applications for Leak Detection; Communication, inter personal skills as applied to interacting with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, etc. sufficient to exchange or convey information and to receive work directions. Must have a valid CNMI Driver's License. Applicants may be tested and subject to pre-employment drug testing.

Drop off your CUC Employment Application at the Human Resource Office located on the 3rd floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Otherwise, you may drop it off at the CUC Tinian or CUC Rota Administration Office.

Pacers rest starters, edge Bucks, 104-102

MILWAUKEE (AP)—Chris Copeland's driving layup with 1.2 seconds remaining gave the Indiana Pacers a 104-102 victory over the Milwaukee Bucks on Wednesday night that moved them back into first place in the Eastern Conference.

Copeland finished with a season-high 18 points. Luis Scola also recorded a season high with 24 points and Evan Turner added 23 for Indiana, which benched all of its usual starters for the entire game.

Coach Frank Vogel made the move after saying his team appeared tired following a 107-88 home loss to Atlanta on Sunday, when the Pacers were held to a franchise-low 23 points in the first half.

Even without the starters, Indiana moved a half-game ahead of the Heat heading into Friday's matchup in Miami.

Grizzlies 107, Heat 102

In Memphis, Tenn., Zach Randolph had 25 points and 11 rebounds, Marc Gasol added 20 points and 14 rebounds and Memphis kept its playoff hopes alive with a victory over Miami.

LeBron James led the Heat with 37 points, connecting on 14 of 23 shots, including 3 of 5 from beyond the arc. Rashard Lewis scored 17, and Chris Bosh finished with 13 points. Mario Chalmers scored 12 points for the Heat.

Meanwhile, the loss, coupled with the Indiana Pacers' 104-102 win at Milwaukee, dropped the Heat into the second spot in the Eastern Conference.

Mike Conley finished with a team-high 26 points and handed out six assists as Memphis remained one game behind the Phoenix Suns for the final playoff spot in the Western Conference. The Suns defeated the New Orleans Pelicans 94-88 also on Wednesday night.

Bobcats 94, Wizards 88, OT

In Washington, Kemba Walker made the only field goal for either team in overtime, and Charlotte won its fifth straight and moved into position for the No. 6 seed in the Eastern Conference with a win over Washington.

Walker made a 3-pointer and a pair of free throws in the extra session, and Al Jefferson added two free throws to account for all of the Bobcats' post-regulation scoring. Charlotte went 1 for 7 from the field, while Washington was 0 for 8 and got its only point from a free throw by John Wall with 34 seconds remaining.

Jefferson finished with 20 points and 18 rebounds, and Walker had 17 points and 12 assists, for the Bobcats, who have their longest winning streak since March 2010—he only other season the franchise has made the playoffs.

Cavaliers 122, Pistons 100

In Cleveland, Dion Waiters scored 22 points and Cleveland played one of its best games this season, routing Detroit before being eliminated from the playoff chase.

Tyler Zeller scored 18 and rookie Matthew Dellavedova had 14 points and 12 assists for Cleveland, which had its playoff hopes ended when Atlanta defeated Boston 105-97.

As the Hawks were rallying to take down the Celtics, the Cavs played with passion and purpose — two things missing too often earlier this season.

Spencer Hawes added 15 points for the Cavs, who led by 32 at half and rolled to one of their best all-around performances in what has been an otherwise disappointing season.

Hawks 105, Celtics 97

In Atlanta, Jeff Teague scored 19 points, Kyle Korver added 17 and Atlanta helped its playoff chances with a victory over Boston.

With four games remaining in the regular season, Atlanta increased its lead to two games over the New York Knicks for the eighth and final Eastern Conference playoff spot.

Avery Bradley finished with 24 points and Rajon Rondo had 19 points with 12 assists for Boston, which has lost nine straight.

The Celtics dropped their 13th in a row on the road, breaking the franchise mark set during the final 13 games of 1978-79.

Thunder 107, Clippers 101

In Los Angeles, Russell Westbrook scored 30 points in his return to the lineup, Kevin Durant added 27, and Oklahoma City held off Los Angeles in a possible playoff preview.

Serge Ibaka added 15 points for the Thunder, who had their starting five together for just the second time since Christmas Day. Westbrook had sat out two of the previous three games and has missed 34 games this season with a variety of injuries.

AP

Indiana Pacers' Chris Copeland sinks the game-winning shot against the Milwaukee Bucks during the second half of an NBA basketball game on Wednesday, April 9, 2014, in Milwaukee.

Blake Griffin had 30 points and 12 rebounds, and Chris Paul added 25 points and eight assists for the Clippers, who could have owned the tiebreaker over the Thunder if they had won. Instead, the teams split their season series 2-2.

Trail Blazers 100, Kings 99

In Portland, Ore., Dorell Wright hit a 3-pointer with 7.9 seconds left and Portland beat late-charging Sacramento.

Ray McCallum missed a 21-foot jumper as time ran out for the Kings and Portland's Robin Lopez grabbed the rebound and held it tight for the victory. It was Wright's only basket of the game.

LaMarcus Aldridge had 22 points to lead the Blazers, who have won six of their past seven games.

Portland, which has missed the playoffs for the past two seasons, clinched a postseason berth with a 100-94 victory over New Orleans on Sunday. The Blazers were fifth in the Western Conference with three games left.

DeMarcus Cousins had 30 points and 12 rebounds for the Kings.

Bulls 102, Timberwolves 87

In Minneapolis, D.J. Augustin scored 21 points and Joakim Noah posted his league-leading fourth triple-double of the season, leading Chicago over Minnesota.

Noah had 15 points, 13 rebounds and 10 assists to move into a tie with Indiana's Lance Stephenson for the most triple-doubles in the NBA this season. Kirk Hinrich scored 16 points on 7-of-9 shooting and the Bulls hit 11 of 21 3-pointers to stay right on Toronto's heels for the third seed in the Eastern Conference.

Kevin Love had 17 points and 10 rebounds for the Timberwolves. But he only made 7 of 20 shots and missed six of his eight 3-point attempts. Ricky Rubio added 15 points and six assists, but the Wolves were just 4 for 17 from long distance.

Suns 94, Pelicans 88

In New Orleans, Gerald Green scored 21 points, and Phoenix won its third straight game.

Goran Dragic had 20 points and nine assists for the Suns, who are clinging to the final playoff spot in the Western Conference. Eric Bledsoe added 16 points and P.J. Tucker 15 for the Suns, who handed the Pelicans their sixth straight loss.

Rookie center Jeff Withey had a career-high 17 points for the Pelicans, who were without Anthony Davis because of the All-Star forward's sore back.

Nuggets 123, Rockets 116

In Denver, Randy Foye scored 24 of his 30 points in the second half, and Denver hung on to beat Houston.

Kenneth Faried had 23 points and Timofey Mozgov added 22 for the Nuggets, who beat the Rockets for the first time in three tries this season.

Jeremy Lin led eight Houston players in double figures with 18 points.

Both teams were missing key players heading into the game and the Rockets got a scare when James Harden, leading a fast break, appeared to bang his left shin in a collision with Aaron Brooks midway through the third quarter. Fouled on the play, Harden made both free throws and left the game briefly to have the leg tended to before returning to action.

Raptors 125, 76ers 114

In Toronto, Jonas Valanciunas had 26 points and 12 rebounds to lift Toronto over Philadelphia on Wednesday, less than three days after he was charged with drunk driving.

Kyle Lowry led Toronto with 29 points in his first game back after missing three with a bruised kneecap. Patrick Patterson finished with 17 for the Raptors in their fourth straight victory and seventh in eight games.

DeMar DeRozan added 17 points before leaving the game with a minute to play with a gash over his left eye. Toronto was missing starting forward Amir Johnson for the fourth straight game.

Henry Sims scored 22 points, Michael Carter-Williams added 19, and Thaddeus Young finished with 16 for the Sixers.

Magic 115, Nets 111

In Orlando, Fla., Arron Afflalo scored 25 points, E'Twaun Moore added 17 and Orlando held off a late rally to beat Brooklyn.

Tobias Harris added 16 points and eight rebounds, and Jameer Nelson had 14 points and seven assists for Orlando, which won its second straight.

Joe Johnson scored 31 points and Mirza Teletovic had 17 as the Nets had a three-game winning streak stopped. Mason Plumlee had 16 points and Marcus Thornton 13 off the bench for the Nets, who played without injured starters Paul Pierce and Shaun Livingston.

UMass basketball player announces he's gay

Derrick Gordon had kept his secret for too long.

He couldn't be himself. He considered giving up the sport he loved. Because he was gay, he distanced himself from teammates.

"I was living life in shame," the UMass guard said in a telephone interview with The Associated Press. "It took a toll on me."

Gordon became the first openly gay player in Division I men's basketball on Wednesday, making the announcement on ESPN and Outsports. Now he hopes to inspire others in similar situations.

"It's crazy that I'm the first," he told the AP. "I didn't know that it would be this long, but if I'm the first, then I'll start it off."

Previous announcements by NBA player Jason Collins and Missouri All-American defensive end Michael Sam made his decision easier. Gordon said he talked with Collins several times before making his announcement.

"There was a time that I didn't want to play basketball anymore and that's the worst feeling ever," he said. "Right now I'm happy. I'm free just to live my life."

Gordon was the Minutemen's fourth-leading scorer with 9.4 points per game last season. UMass went 24-9 and reached the NCAA tournament for the first time since 1998. It lost its first game to Tennessee on March 21.

Nine days later Gordon told his parents, who have been supportive. The sophomore informed UMass coach Derek Kellogg the next day.

"He said it didn't matter. He's still going to love me for who I am," Gordon said. "He said `It just might make you play a lot better next season than you did last season.' So we joked around a lot."

Two days later, he told his teammates at an emotional meeting. They, too, supported him.

Center Tyler Bergantino roomed with Gordon as freshmen.

"The fact that he's gay doesn't change anything," Bergantino said. "We didn't know he was gay before. We know he's gay now. But he's the exact same person."

Gordon said some teammates at the Amherst, Mass., school probably have known since last summer. He sat out the previous season after transferring from Western Kentucky to be closer to his family in New Jersey, where he played at high school powerhouse St. Patrick. ***(AP)***

Ortiz homer leads Red Sox to 4-2 win over Rangers

BOSTON (AP)—David Ortiz hit a three-run homer high over the Pesky Pole in the eighth inning, helping the Boston Red Sox rally for a 4-2 victory over the Texas Rangers on Wednesday.

Ortiz's second homer was heading down the right-field line before it curled around the pole just 302 feet from home plate. Ortiz remained in the batter's box until first-base umpire Jerry Meals signaled a home run.

Rangers manager Ron Washington came out after Ortiz crossed the plate to ask for a review. After 44.1 seconds, the play was upheld.

Andrew Miller (1-0) won despite allowing the go-ahead run in the top of the eighth, and Koji Uehara pitched the ninth for his second save. Alexi Ogando (0-1) was the loser.

Orioles 5, Yankees 4

In New York, Nick Markakis had an RBI single in the ninth inning against fill-in closer Shawn Kelley, and Baltimore rallied for a victory in Masahiro Tanaka's first Yankee Stadium start.

Jonathan Schoop hit a three-run homer off Tanaka in the second inning of his first start at Yankee Stadium but Carlos Beltran and Kelly Johnson connected against Miguel Gonzalez in the bottom of the inning.

Blue Jays 7, Astros 3

In Toronto, Brett Lawrie hit a two-run homer and Brandon Morrow won for the first time in almost 11 months.

Alex Presley hit a two-run homer for the Astros, who have lost six of seven following a 2-0 start.

Morrow (1-1), limited to 10 starts last season with a nerve injury in his forearm, won for the first time since May 23, 2013, when he beat Baltimore. He allowed three runs and five hits in six innings and struck out nine.

Indians 2, Padres 0
Padres 2, Indians 1

In Cleveland, Robbie Erlin (1-0) gave up one run and four hits in six innings, and Chase Headley's single in the sixth off Trevor Bauer (0-1) drove in the go-ahead run as San Diego gained a doubleheader split.

Zach McAllister (1-0) allowed five hits in 7 2-3, innings and Jason Kipnis hit a two-run homer in the sixth off Eric Stults (0-2) as Cleveland won the opener.

Athletics 7, Twins 4

In Minneapolis, Derek Norris hit a three-run homer in the 11th inning off Jared Burton (0-1), and Oakland Athletics bounced back from another blown save by new closer Jim Johnson.

Dan Otero (1-0) got the last eight outs for the victory in relief of Johnson, who has given up seven runs, nine hits and six walks in five appearances with the A's.

Royals 7, Rays 3

In Kansas City, Mo., Alex Gordon hit a three-run homer and matched a career high with four RBIs.

Jeremy Guthrie (2-0) recovered from a sloppy start to hold the Rays to four hits over seven innings.

Angels 2, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Albert Pujols homered for the second straight game while Garrett Richards and two relievers combined on one-hitter as the Los Angeles Angels beat the Seattle Mariners.

On the day the Angels lost Josh Hamilton for potentially up to two months to injury, Pujols provided the biggest blow. He hit a two-run homer in the third off Seattle starter Roenis Elias (0-1).

Reds 4, Cardinals 0

In St. Louis, Billy Hamilton had three hits and his first two steals, and scored easily after tagging up on a shallow outfield pop fly to support a strong outing from Mike Leake in the Cincinnati Reds' victory over the St. Louis Cardinals.

Leake (1-1) allowed four hits and a walk in eight scoreless innings and Devin Mesoraco hit a two-run home run for the Reds, who avoided a three-game sweep after dropping their ninth series in their last 10 in St. Louis.

Rockies 10, White Sox 4

In Denver, D.J. LeMahieu's two-run single broke a tie in a six-run eighth inning. LeMahieu finished with three hits, including an RBI double in the sixth that tied the game at 4.

Rex Brothers (1-0) got two outs in the eighth as the Rockies took two of three in the series, and reliever Scott Downs (0-2) was the loser.

Nationals 10, Marlins 7

In Washington, Jayson Werth hit a go-ahead grand slam in the eighth inning off Carlos Marmol after Bryce Harper's upper-deck, three-run homer started a comeback from an early deficit, leaidng the Washington Nationals over the Miami Marlins.

Werth and Harper each delivered his first homer of the season as Washington overcame deficits of 5-0 and 7-6 in a topsy-turvy game. Werth's shot off Marmol (0-1) came with one out, after the reliever allowed a single, hit a batter, then intentionally walked Anthony Rendon to load the bases.

Cubs 7, Pirates 5

In Chicago, Jason Hammel threw seven strong innings, Anthony Rizzo had four hits, and the Chicago Cubs beat the Pittsburgh Pirates despite allowing five solo home runs.

Hammel (2-0) retired the first 12 batters until Pedro Alvarez's first homer of the game tied it to start the fifth. Hammel allowed three runs and three hits—all solo homers—while striking out six. Mike Olt and Junior Lake hit back-to-back home runs in the fifth against Wandy Rodriguez (0-2).

Braves 4, Mets 3

In Atlanta, Ervin Santana allowed only three hits over eight scoreless innings in his Atlanta debut, Jason Heyward homered and drove in two runs and the Braves held off the New York Mets.

The Braves led 4-0, but the Mets rallied in the ninth after Santana was removed. Juan Lagares drove in two runs with a bases-loaded single, and Travis d'Arnaud added a run-scoring single before Craig Kimbrel fanned Ruben Tejada for his fourth save.

Brewers 9, Phillies 4

In Philadelphoa, Ryan Braun hit a two-run triple during a four-run eighth inning rally to lead the Milwaukee Brewers to their fifth straight win.

Carlos Gomez and Mark Reynolds homered and Jean Segura doubled and drove in a run for Milwaukee, which has won all five games during the streak on the road. The Brewers snapped a 4-all tie in the eighth when they scored three runs on one hit off Antonio Bastardo (0-1). Reynolds scored the go-ahead run on an error by first baseman Ryan Howard.

Diamondbacks 7, Giants 3

In San Francisco, Paul Goldschmidt hit a three-run homer and sacrifice fly to pound Tim Lincecum again, and the Arizona Diamondbacks beat the San Francisco Giants.

Gerardo Parra hit a two-run homer and Eric Chavez added an RBI triple for his first hit in his first start of the year for Arizona.

Goldschmidt is batting .542 (13-for-24) with seven homers and 17 RBIs all-time against Lincecum, including a two-run homer last week at Chase Field.

Michael Morse and Buster Posey hit solo homers against Bronson Arroyo (1-0), who won his third straight decision against San Francisco.

Tigers 7, Dodgers 6, 10 innings

In Los Angeles, Victor Martinez hit a leadoff home run in the 10th inning, his second clutch hit against Los Angeles closer Kenley Jansen in two games, and the Detroit Tigers beat the Dodgers after Joe Nathan blew a three-run lead in the ninth.

Martinez drove a 2-2 pitch deep into the pavilion seats in right-center to make an unlikely winner of Nathan (2-0). One night earlier, Martinez tied the score with a two-out single in the ninth before the Dodgers pulled out a 3-2 victory in 10.

Al Albuquerque retired Matt Kemp on a grounder to get his first major league save.

Two in a row for Blue Haus

Defending champion Blue Haus earned its second win in as many games in the 2014 QQ Rent A Cat Invitational Basketball League after pounding the Hoopaholics, 65-46, last Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

A 14-0 windup in the last 6:25 of the second quarter helped Blue Haus rout the hapless Hoopaholics. Before the major Hoops meltdown, Blue Haus was ahead by only 6, 24-18. Leo Galarse then canned three straight fastbreak points and Blue Haus went on to turn the Hoops' errors into easy baskets to close the first half with a big 20-point lead, 38-18.

The Hoopaholics scored only two field goals in the second canto, as it went for too much ball movement and repeatedly was time pressured to pull up for shots. Alex Lauron and James Villacrusis hit one field goal apiece, while Dexter Tenorio nailed a free throw.

The Hoopaholics' drought continued in the second half before Cabrera hit a banked shot at the 5:07 mark. However, the Hoops was in a cold mode anew in the next three minutes, while Blue Haus kept using its bench to pile up more points.

By the end of the third canto, the defending champion was still enjoying a big margin, 51-26. The Hoopaholics was limited to three field goals and two free throws in the third period with no player from the squad scoring more than two points.

The Hoopaholics tried to mount a comeback in the fourth and cut the deficit to as low as 13, 42-55, with less than four minutes left in the game. However, a quick 6-0 run capped by Edwin Santos' back-to-back baskets sealed it for Blue Haus.

The Hoops absorbed its second straight loss after bowing to Mobil, 68-72, in the league's opening day last weekend. Blue Haus defeated Island Manpower in the opener, 69-66, while Toka routed High-Five in the third match last Sunday, 65-48.

High-Five recovered with a 70-65 win against the Rebels in the first game last Wednesday night.

Don Brennan scored 22 points for High-Five, including the team's last three points, while Tim Wesley made two straight baskets in the homestretch and finished with 12 points.

First Game

High Five 70 – Brennan 22, Pangelinan 13, Wesley 12, Peters 8, Aaron 5, Coldeen 5, Acosta 2, Aughenbaugh 2.

Rebels 65 – Litululular 14, Babauta 13, Ogumoro 10, Lisua 9, Norita 6, Teregeyo 4.

Scoring by quarters: 10-7, 29-27, 54-47, 70-65.

Second Game

Blue Haus 65 – Esdrelon 12, Barbo 11, Pagarao 10, Devero 8, Santos 7, Galarse 7, Guiab 3, De Dios 2, Talania 2, Garcia 1.

Hoopaholics 46 – Villacrusus 14, Lauron 10, Cabrera 6, Villagomez 6, Tenorio 3, Sablan 3, Palacios 2, Manibusan 2.

Scoring by quarters: 17-13, 38-18, 51-26, 65-46.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Blue Haus' Leo Galarse, left, and Darwin Barbo challenge the host of the Hoopaholics' James Villacrusis during the first quarter of their game in the QQ caging last Wednesday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Pistorius refuses to look at photo of dead lover

PRETORIA, South Africa (AP)—A shaken Oscar Pistorius refused to look at a gruesome photo of his slain girlfriend's bloodied head on Wednesday, telling a prosecutor through tears, "I don't have to look at a picture. I was there."

"It's time that you look at it," chief prosecutor Gerrie Nel said during a fierce first day of cross-examination in which he doggedly pressed the double-amputee Olympian to "take responsibility" for killing Reeva Steenkamp.

The 27-year-old Pistorius is charged with premeditated murder in the Valentine's Day 2013 shooting of Steenkamp, who was hit three times— in the head, arm and hip— as she cowered behind a locked toilet door. Pistorius says he shot the 29-year-old model and law school graduate by mistake, thinking she was a dangerous intruder.

Gasps could be heard in the courtroom from spectators, including the dead woman's mother, June, when the police photo suddenly appeared on multiple TV screens showing Steenkamp's head turned to the side, her blonde hair drenched in blood and a mass of tissue on the back and upper parts of her skull, her eyes closed.

Pistorius turned away and refused to look at the image, even as the prosecutor insisted he do so and face up to what he did.

"I will not look at a picture where I'm tormented by what I saw and felt that night," Pistorius said, becoming distraught and breaking into sobs. "As I picked Reeva up, my fingers touched her head. I remember. I don't have to look at a picture. I was there."

Wednesday's heated questioning began with the showing of a video, first broadcast on Sky News, of the star athlete firing a gun at a watermelon at a shooting range. Pistorius can be heard saying the melon was "softer than brains" as it exploded when the bullet hit, and calling the powerful .50-caliber handgun he was using a "zombie stopper."

"You know the same happened to Reeva's head," Nel told Pistorius. "It exploded."

"You killed her. You shot and killed her," the prosecutor said. "Take responsibility for what you've done, Mr. Pistorius."

Defense lawyer Barry Roux objected to the showing of the gun video, saying it was inadmissible character evidence and amounted to a legal "ambush" by the prosecution.

Nel also attempted to poke holes in Pistorius' version of the fatal night, including his reversal of a claim in court documents a year ago that he went out onto a balcony at his home before the shooting. The runner now says he went to the edge of the balcony but did not step outside. The discrepancy could be significant because Pistorius says a noise in the bathroom alerted him to a possible intruder, which would have been harder to hear if he were outside.

Nel tried to pin Pistorius down on whether he meant to fire into the toilet door at a perceived intruder. Pistorius said he didn't intend to shoot "anyone" and that he fired "before thinking" because he thought his life was in danger.

This prompted Nel to accuse him of weighing the legal implications of the question before answering.

Pistorius said he was merely trying to be careful with his answers because the stakes are high.

"My life is on the line," he said, to which Nel retorted: "Reeva doesn't have a life anymore, because of what you've done."

Attempting to dismantle a sympathetic image of Pistorius the defense sought to create during three days of testimony, Nel pressed the athlete to explicitly acknowledge that he killed Steenkamp.

"I made a mistake," Pistorius said.

"What was your mistake?" Nel shot back.

"I took Reeva's life," Pistorius said.

OVER

From Page 32

her chances in the PIC Double championship, which will be decided by combining the triathletes' times in the Tagaman and XTERRA Saipan. Carey clocked in 3:16:32 against the 3:03:31 of Wasle.

"I would like to challenge Carina for the PIC double and I will do my best," Carey said.

Also challenging Wasle is the swimbikerun.ph's three-time Female Elite Triathlete of the Year Torres, who is a veteran of various races in the Philippine. Torres also competed in races in Taiwan, Hong Kong, and the U.S.

The four other entries in the women's division are Korea's Chung Ja Jung and Japan's Reiko Okamoto, Yoko Sano, and Etsuko Funakoshi.

In the men's division, Russia's Alesandr Dorovskikh is the favorite and will be battling a bunch of Korean and Japanese triathletes.

Meanwhile, Renata Bucher opted for the Olympic distance race this Saturday. The shorter course will cover a distance of 1K in the swim leg, 40K in the road bike, and 10K run. Bucher will be challenged by several local triathletes and representatives from Korea and Japan.

Fifty-one registered for the individual Olympic distance race, while seven signed up for the team event. In the Half Ironman, 45 individuals and seven teams will try to conquer the grueling race that will start at 6am with registration and numbering taking place from 4am to 5:30am.

PAIRE

From Page 32

and final match of the night. Tan Holdings, which absorbed its third loss in as many matches, failed to muster enough players for the game. The league is an 11 vs 11 contest, as Tan Holdings was two players short to see action in the pitch.

In the other game last weekend, Kanoa kept its perfect record after outclassing MP United, 2-0.

Lalaine Pagarao and Jeralyn Castillo scored one goal apiece in Kanoa's third victory in as many games. Kanoa's pair of goals came in a span of four minutes with Pagarao eluding her defenders and connecting a shot in the 25th minute and Castillo converting her attempt in the 29th minute.

With Kanoa adding two more goals, it has the most goals so far in the seven-team league with 12, while MP United and Matansa has six and four, respectively.

Meanwhile, Kanoa will go for win No. 4 when it takes on Tan Holdings in the curtain-raiser tomorrow at 4pm, while Matansa FC will challenge Shirley's in the second match at 6pm. In the nightcap at 8pm, Independents FC will return to the Oleai pitch after taking a break in Week 3, as it faces Paire FC.

YANKEES

From Page 32

top of the first inning. Camacho added another run, as his sacrifice fly drove Ben Jones home in the second inning. Then in the third, the Yankees got five more earned runs for a 9-2 advantage. Pat Alepuyo blasted a two-run single, while A.J. Lizama and Tom Joab nailed RBI singles, and Jones stole home.

The Tigers had only two runs in the exchange, getting an RBI single from John Santi in the second inning and another run off a fielder's choice in the third. The Tigers never made a comeback in the last six innings to drop to a 3-6 record.

In last Monday's game, the Fielders collected 16 earned runs to crush the D-9ers. Juan Tenorio Jr. and Nunu Kapileo had four RBIs each, while Jared Sablan chipped in three. Tenorio was 2-for-4 at bat and scored four runs, while Kapileo was perfect, going 2-for-2, and Sablan hit 4-for-5, making three runs.

Kapileo and Tenorio connected on two-RBI singles in the first inning to kick off the Fielders' offense on a high gear as the team racked eight runs in the frame do take the early lead en route to the lopsided win.

The Brewers also cruised to victory over the D-9ers last Friday, as the former shut out the latter in the first five innings for a commanding 15-0 advantage.

Lenny Sablan pitched for the Brewers in the first five innings and allowed only three hits, while striking out six. Henry Nakamura closed out for the Brewers and gave up one hit and two runs. Ian Lizama scored the first run for the D-9ers, as he reached home off a Kyle Kaipat single in the sixth inning. The other was courtesy of Tim Deleon Guerrero, who stole home at the top of the seventh before Nakamura got two straight strikeouts to lift the Brewers to an early win via 10-run mercy rule.

John Taitano and Nokki Saralu had three RBIs each in the easy victory with the former hitting 3-for-3 and the latter going 2-for-3 and scoring two runs.

Brewers players on top of batting, pitching charts

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Brewers pitcher throws to home plate during a warm up for their game against the D-9ers in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League last week at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

The Brewers' Nokki Saralu and Vince Cepeda are the current leaders in the batting and pitching races in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League.

Saralu registered a batting average of .444 after last Monday's game. He was 12-for-27 at bat to lead 14 others. The Brewers third baseman is ahead of erstwhile leader Ian Rogolifoi of the Tigers, as the latter hit 10-for-24 for a batting average of .417. Rogolifoi and Saralu were the only two players in the batting chart to have an average of at least .400.

Third placer Tyrone Omar of the Brewers recorded .360 off a 9-for-25 performance at the plate, while his teammate Diego Camacho (.357/10-for-28) and the Fielders' Jared Sablan (.354/17-for-48) rounded out the Top 5.

Others on the list are the Tigers' Mark Toves (.346), the Northern Starz's Jeremy Atalig (.345), the Tigers' Jesse Yamagishi (.333), the Brewers' Byron Kaipat (.300), the Tigers' Rocco Reyes (.300) and Tom Guerrero (.290), the Brewers' Ton Leon Guerrero (.290) and Jun Rabauliman (.278), and the Fielders' Brian McAllister (.259), and Zack Flores (.242). The batting leaders were based on 24 or more times at bat.

In the pitching contest, Cepeda is ahead of five others with his 0.43 ERA. He pitched 21 innings and gave up only one run to pace the Fielders' Aaron Benavente (1.29), Joe Palacios (2.13), and Tony Benavente (2.13), the Tigers' Peter Lieto (1.96), and the Brewers' Tom Camacho (2.53).

While he slid down to third place in the pitching race, Lieto remained at the top spot in the strikeouts category with his 40. Cepeda is at second place with his 31 strikeouts, while Palacios and Camacho had 26 and 17, respectively.

In other categories, Saralu leads both the triples and RBIs races with two and 16. Jared Sablan has the second most RBIs so far with 10, while another Fielders player Vincent Sablan has eight. In the runs, Omar is slightly ahead of three others with his 13. Saralu, the Northern Starz's Lamarc Iguel, and Jared Sablan have 12 each. In the doubles race, Yamagishi and Jared Sablan are tied with four apiece.

PIC Hafa Adai 5K gets help from Bridge Capital

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

PIC SEA director Glenn Policare, center, receives the ceremonial check donation from Bridge Capital's Allen Perez, left, and Mark Badal during a turnover ceremony last month.

With less than a month away to what is bound to be the most talked about event on Saipan this year, the PIC Hafa Adai 5K is proud to announce that Bridge Capital LL has joined the growing list of sponsors for this fundraising event

"Bridge Capital is very excited to be part of this event and we encourage the community and other businesses to support and join this event and the others to come," said Bridge Capital IT/marketing manager Mark Badal.

The Hafa Adai 5K will start and finish at PIC Saipan. This event coincides with the blooming of the flame trees here on Saipan. Along with the bright orange flowers which will light up the island from now until summer, the Hafa Adai 5K will have each and every participant going home covered in a sheet of "holi powder." The distance is achievable for everyone to join and the coloring stations will make this event that much more fun.

"This exciting fun run fills all the criteria's within Bridge Capital vision of supporting charitable organization such as the Salvation Army and motivate the community to live active, positive, and healthy lifestyles," Badal said.

The Hafa Adai 5K will have participants passing through four coloring stations along the 5K route. Volunteers will celebrate each participant's arrival with a splash of either blue, yellow, pink, or red colored corn starch. This biodegradable and non-toxic mixture will have participants laughing all the way from station to station.

"We wanted to host an event where everyone could join. Bridge Capital has been a supporter of so many past and upcoming sporting events on the island. This partnership just made sense," said PIC SEA director Glenn Policare.

Entry forms are available at the PIC front desk and at Saipan Shell Stations. Entry fees are only $10 and the first 500 paid entries will receive a free limited edition event shirt. Proceeds from the Hafa Adai 5K will go to benefit the CNMI Salvation Army. For more information, contact Dennis Tababa at dennis.tababa@picsaipan.com or call 237-5147. ***(PR)***

Tilipao takes RGA March Ace

Louie Tilipao bagged the Refaluwasch Golf Association March Ace of the Month after pulling off a two-stroke win in last month's tournament at the Kingfisher Golf Links.

Tilipao shot a net 65 last March 23, prevailing by two strokes against Ron Choi and beating the net 71 RGA president Ray Tigilau recorded in the qualifying competition early last month, also at the Talafofo facility. The 13-handicapper Tilipao fired a 5-over 41 in the first nine holes and played better in the last nine with his 1-over par 37 for a net score of 78. He saved par in the first five holes on the back nines, birdied the par-3 No. 15 and had two bogeys and a par in the final three holes. The March champion, who now qualifies for the season-ending club championship, also had pars in five of the nine holes from the front nines and double-bogeyed only one hole for a good round at Kingfisher.

Tilipao tied Choi for the best gross score in the March tournament, but the latter settled for runner-up honors, as his 11 handicap gave him a net 67. Choi had a 40 and 38 on the front and bike nines, respectively. Tigilao dropped to third, although he surpassed his qualifying round score after tallying a net 68. The RGA president had a 44 on the front nine and a 37 on the back, gaining birdies on the par-5 No. 13 and par-4 No. 13, but double bogeyed four holes to fail on his bid for the March plum.

Nine other RGA members joined last month's tournament. The list includes David Apatang (net 71), Harry Nakamura (74), Anthony Benavente (75), Ulyses Kapileo (75), Tars Olopai (76), Joe Saures (77), Frank Flores (78), Tom Tebuteb (81), and Manny Mangarero (87).

Meanwhile, RGA had his April Ace qualifying tournament last Sunday at the Marianas Country Club and results of the competition will be reported later this month. For more information, contact tournament director Mangarero at 285-2610, RGA secretary Kapileo at 989-8269, and Tebuteb at 483-2589. ***(Roselyn B. Monroyo)***

Saipan Tribune
Sports

Over 100 to test 25th Tagaman

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
Austrian pro Carina Wasle, seen here running along the Micro Beach shore during last weekend's XTERRA Saipan, will be competing in the Tagaman Triathlon tomorrow.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

A total of 128 athletes will participate in the silver anniversary of Tagaman Triathlon that starts tomorrow morning in waters off Pacific Islands Club Saipan.

Leading the list is newly crowned XTERRA Saipan champion Carina Wasle, who is entered in the Half Ironman division of Tagaman. The 70.3 race will feature a 1.9-kilometer swim leg in the waters off Pacific Islands Club, a 90K bike around the island, and 21K run from American Memorial Park down to PIC and back to AMP.

"After winning XTERRA, which was like a big dream come true, I can go very relaxed in Tagaman. I've never raced a 70.3 race before and I'll use it as a good training race. It will be a very hard race, but I will try to keep it easy because of the heat and wind. We'll see how I will deal with it," Wasle said.

The Austrian pro will be up against six other female triathletes, including former Saipan pro Mieko Carey and the Philippines' Monica Torres. Mieko will be using her familiarity with the event's distance and course to aim for her first-ever Tagaman Triathlon victory.

"Half Ironman is my favorite road tri distance. I have done Half Ironman five times and I love it. It will be challenging because of the strong wind up north on the bike leg and heat on the run as I will be running past 10am. I will focus on my pace because that's my strategy in long races. I learned this from the past Half Ironman I did," Mieko said.

The Guam pro is hoping for a good time in Tagaman to boost

See OVER on Page 30

Paire FC bounces back, beats Shirley's

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Paire recovered quickly from its opening season loss after defeating Shirley's FC, 2-0, in the first game in the 2014 NMIFA Women's League last Saturday at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Paire scored the twin goals in the first half, getting the first one from Amanda Allen and the second from Kayleen Salle. Allen hit her target in the 28th minute, while Salle lit up the board five minutes later. Shirley's FC failed to produce a single goal to fall to a 0-1-2 win-draw-loss record. Shirley's other defeat was at the hands of the league-leading Kanoa FC, 1-5, during the opener last month, while it drew MP United, 1-1, in the Week 2 match. Paire also dropped its opener, bowing to Matansa FC, 1-0.

Matansa, which lost to Independents FC in the league's opening game, notched back-to-back wins after bagging a free victory against Tan Holdings FC in last Saturday's third

See PAIRE on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
An MP United player uses her knees to stop the ball during a game against Shirley's FC in Week 2 of the NMIFA women's league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

Yankees, Brewers tied for SBL lead

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The Saipan Stevedore Yankees grabbed a share of the lead in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League, following a 16-5 win over the Tigers last Wednesday night at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield,

The Yankees tied the GSM Brewers for the top spot as they have identical 7-1 records. The Brewers gained their seventh win in eight games last Friday after a 15-2 demolition of the winless D-9ers, who went on to absorb their ninth loss in as many matches after being badly beaten by Fielders (5-5-), 22-5, last Monday night. The Northern Starz (4-4) completes the six-team field.

The 2012 champions Yankees won over the Tigers and forced a deadlock for the lead after a steady offense in the first three innings of the game. Brian Camacho, Kevin Kapileo, and Chris Camacho had RBI singles each to put the Yankees in the board at the

See YANKEES on Page 30

ROSELYN B. MONROYO
A Yankees batter waits for the pitch during an earlier game against the Tigers in the 2014 Saipan Baseball League last month at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.